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SCHERMERHORN, WILLIAM E.

THE HISTORY OF BURLINGTON,

NEW JERSEY







# The History of Burlington, New Jersey

From the early European arrivals in the Delaware  
to the Quarter Millennial Anniversary,  
in 1927, of the settlement by  
English Quakers in 1677.

*By*

WILLIAM E. SCHERMERHORN

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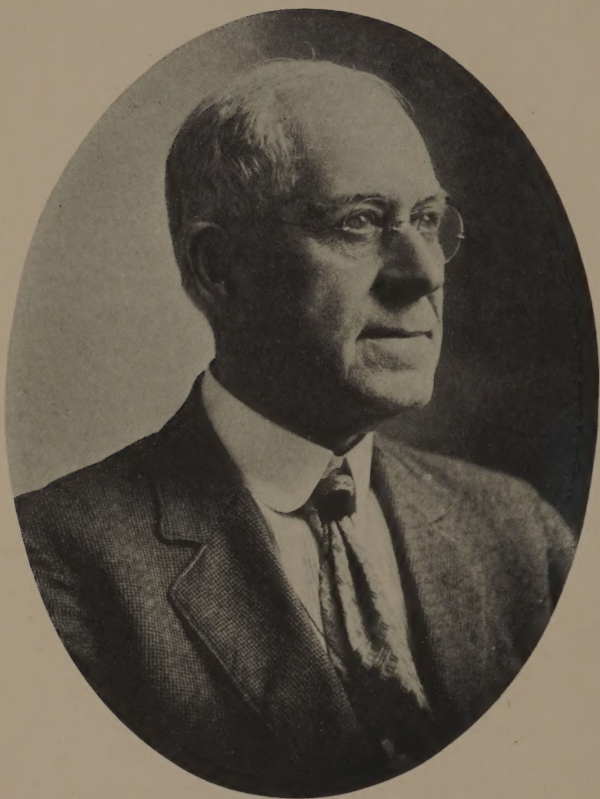
HENRY S. HAINES

*the historian of Burlington, from whom, in  
his lifetime, the author gained much of  
the information, and whose memory  
has been the inspiration, for the  
preparation of this volume.*









*William E. Schermerhorn.*



## Foreword

"The memorials and things of fame that do renown our city."

*Twelfth Night, Act 3, Scene 4.*

THE same motives that planted Puritan settlements on the rock-bound coast of New England, a half century earlier, peopled the shores of the placid Delaware with English Quakers in 1677.

Just as the Puritans suffered under Charles I, because they could not conscientiously conform to the established Anglican church, so did the Society of Friends in the dissolute reign of Charles II. There was uncertainty as to the stability of civil and religious freedom, and much persecution of those who insisted upon the free exercise of religious belief.

The names of nearly all the early settlers of Burlington can be found in that record of persecution: William Clayton, Richard Hancock, John Ellis, Richard Guy and Richard Woodmancy were prisoners in York castle more than once between the years 1660 and 1677; Christopher Wetherill was confined in Beverly jail in 1660; John Kinsey had been in prison; William Peachy was under sentence of banishment for "attending meetings"; John Cripps had lain in a cell at Newgate for keeping his hat on in "a bold and irreverent manner" when the Lord Mayor passed by into the Guild Hall; Thomas Ollive and John Woolston had languished in Northampton jail; and Dr. Daniel Wills was "tried for banishment for a third offense" and was "thrice in prison for holding meetings in his house."

This was the spur that drove these freedom loving Friends across the perilous sea. They broke with their connections of family and friends; they abandoned neighborhood traditions and the material comforts of their homeland

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(for many of them lived well in England); they dared the uncertain experiment of a hazardous voyage of three thousand miles; and inexperienced, unused to hardship and exposure, faced in the land to which they fared the trials, discomforts, perils and privations of life in an unbroken wilderness, that they might set up a shrine for liberty in a new land and enjoy freedom of conscience—the God-given birthright denied to them in their fatherland.

Bancroft, the historian, has declared that “the formation of that peaceful colony in the gloomy recesses of the silent woods is one of the most beautiful incidents in the history of civilization.” “For,” he says, “on the banks of the Delaware there sprang up a race of men who labored for inward stillness; who only desired to live in the spirit of truth and goodness; who learned to love God in all His manifestations in the visible world.”

The *Mayflower*, cherished in the folk-lore of New England, holds no more hallowed place in history than the good ship *Kent* which brought the first group of adventuring Friends to settle Burlington: the ancient buttonwood, on the river bank, to which the ship *Shield* moored a year later, must be accorded no less celebrity than Plymouth rock in the annals of colonization in America.

That which the sturdy yeomen who founded Burlington sought to establish here has been the happy heritage of their descendants for two hundred and fifty years. It is ours so freely, it is so common a possession, that we may fail to estimate the full value of the legacy of liberty they bequeathed to us and to measure the high price they paid for it.

At this time, when we are celebrating the birth of Burlington, it is well to revive memories of the aims and ideals and achievements, and to cherish the unfaltering faith, of the founders. This attempted history has been prepared

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with that hopeful purpose, and to awaken a feeling of pride in the fact that in planting the seeds of civil and religious liberty here the pioneer settlers of Burlington founded a town whose traditions have ever been honorable.

*Acknowledgment.*—The compiler of this volume acknowledges his indebtedness to the following sources of information: Smith's *History of New Jersey*, Raum's *History of New Jersey*, Lee's *History of New Jersey*, Heston's *South Jersey, a History*, Woodward's *History of Burlington County*, Davis' *History of Bucks County, Pa.*, *New Jersey Archives*, *New Jersey Gazetteer*, Burlington Township records, minutes of the Board of Island Managers, old files of the *Burlington Gazette*, Dr. Hill's *History of the Church in Burlington*, James Craft's diary of "Daily Occurrences," diary of Margaret Hill Morris, Henry Armitt Brown's Bi-Centennial address, Amelia Mott Gummere's *Friends in Burlington*, numerous old pamphlets and letters; also to Miss Lydia Weston, Librarian; Miss Margaret S. Haines, Col. E. B. Stone, John Tyler, Chief of the Fire Department, Nathaniel G. Johnson, Superintendent of the Water Works, Walter W. Marrs, City Clerk, the Chamber of Commerce and the pastors of the various churches in Burlington.

W. E. S.

Burlington, N. J., September 1, 1927.





## Concerning the Ancient Title

**I**T may seem a far cry from the voyages of John and Sebastian Cabot, in 1497, just two years after Columbus stirred Europe with his story of the discovery of the Western world, to the year 1677, when Burlington was settled by English Quakers.

The relationship exists, however, by reason of the fact that all titles to lands in New Jersey run back to the claim of the English crown. That claim is based upon the discoveries of the Cabots who were commissioned by Henry VII, of England, "to discover the isles, regions, and provinces of the heathen and infidels, which had been unknown to all the nations of Christendom in whatever part of the globe they might be placed."

Under that commission the Cabots discovered the island of Newfoundland on the 24th of June, 1497. Continuing their quest, they sailed downward along the coast as far as Florida, landing at various places and taking possession of the country in the name of the English King. The claim of the English, including the title to New Jersey, was based on that discovery, and all property rights in the Province ran back to warrants from the Crown.

No advantage of these discoveries was taken by the English for eighty-seven years. Then Queen Elizabeth, in 1584, granted to Sir Walter Raleigh a patent giving him authority to "discover, possess and govern all the lands not then possessed by any Christian prince or people." Two unsuccessful attempts were made, in 1585 and 1590, to establish a settlement at Roanoke, Raleigh having taken possession of the country for the Crown of England, giving it the name of Virginia in honor of his sovereign.

Twenty-two years later, in 1606, disregarding the Ra-

leigh right, King James I granted a new patent to the country of "Virginia" the bounds of which were considered as including the present Virginia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York and New England. Complaints of bad management against the patentees brought the matter to trial in the King's Bench. The patent was declared forfeited and the Crown was again at liberty to grant these lands to others.

Then two pretenders arose, the Dutch and the Swedes, the former by claims under discoveries made by Henry Hudson, in 1609, and a grant made to the Dutch West India Company by King James giving them leave to erect cottages upon the Hudson River for the convenience of ships landing there for fresh water and supplies. They established a colony on the Hudson, called New Netherlands, and then boldly assumed jurisdiction of adjacent territory, including New Jersey. The Swedish claim was founded on an alleged purchase from the Indians of lands on both sides of the Delaware River from Cape Henlopen to the Falls of the Delaware.

The Dutch and Swedes did not long maintain peaceful relations. The Dutch had a high opinion of the desirability of land along the Delaware and regarded the Swedes as intruders. A quarrel for supremacy broke out between them and both Dutch and Swedes erected a number of forts at various points along the Delaware. One of the Dutch forts was located on the lower end of Burlington Island. Disturbances continued between them until 1655 when the Dutch fitted out and armed seven vessels at New Amsterdam, sailed up the Delaware and besieged fort after fort until every Swedish stronghold was captured and their adventure in colonizing New Jersey was ended.

This left the Dutch in sole possession. A Dutch colony in the heart of his New World dominions was displeasing



to Charles II, who on the fall of the Protectorate, in 1660, had been called to the throne of England. Without proclamation of war with Holland until some months after the event, a small fleet and some land forces were sent to America in 1664, sailed up the Delaware and gained a bloodless conquest over the unsuspecting and unprepared Dutchmen.

By the treaty of peace at Breda, in August 1667, the right of the Crown of England to these provinces became indisputably founded. But even before this Charles II had made, on March 20, 1664, by Royal Charter, an extensive grant of territory to his brother James, Duke of York. This grant included the whole of New Jersey with authority to govern according to English constitutions.

Upon the 23rd of June, in the same year, the Duke of York conveyed to John, Lord Berkeley, and Sir George Carteret, all the territory within the bounds of New Jersey with all the rights and privileges which he possessed. Berkeley and Carteret framed a constitution for the colony securing equal privileges and liberty of conscience for all. This was the first constitution of New Jersey and was one of the earliest declarations, assuring personal rights and religious liberty, made in the new world. This constitution continued until the province was divided into East and West Jersey, in 1676. Little was done, however, by Berkeley and Carteret to attract colonists.

The conditions of the treaty of peace entered into at Breda seem to have been held lightly by Charles II. In 1672, in utter disregard of the wishes of his subjects in England, he made a secret treaty with France and joined in a war against Holland. The Dutch captured New York and New Jersey and the English ascendancy in these colonies was temporarily abolished. It was re-established when the English Parliament forced the King to renounce

his alliance with France and make a separate peace with Holland in 1673.

The English title was deemed to have been interrupted, if not destroyed, by the Dutch conquest and occupancy, thus impairing the conveyance that had been made to James, Duke of York. This grant was therefore reaffirmed by the King, on June 29th, 1673, and a new deed was made to Berkeley and Carteret by the Duke on July 29th, of that year.



## Footprints of the Forerunners

THE identity of the original inhabitants of the land upon which the city of Burlington stands is shrouded in the twilight of tradition. When the whites settled along the shores of the Delaware they found the soil in possession of the Lenni Lenape Indians, who called it the country of Scheyechbi. According to some etymologists this means, "original people." It was thought by M. de Quignes, who wrote in 1753, that the Scheyechbians may have been descendants of certain Chinese navigators who, it is believed, broke their way through the forests of North America in the year 458 A. D.

Then again, the Scheyechbians may have belonged to the Lenni Lenape nation of Indians who, according to one tradition, were once located west of the Mississippi and made their way eastward to the valleys of the Susquehanna and the Delaware. William Nelson, of Paterson, for many years prior to his death Secretary of the New Jersey Historical Society, after an exhaustive investigation wrote: "The Lenapes had their origin in the neighborhood of Hudson's Bay, and began migrating southward probably three or four thousand years before the Christian era."

There was an Indian tribe of the nation of the Lenapes for every ten or twenty miles. They were commonly distinguished by the names of creeks or other places where their villages were located. Thus there were the Assunpink, the Rankokas, the Mingo, the Neshaminy and the Shackamaxon Indians. The Burlington Indians were called Mantas, meaning frogs.

How early a European settlement was established at Burlington is unknown. It is the general belief of antiquarians that the first white settlers were Swedish fur traders who

had followed the Indian trails from Toms River, Egg Harbor and Cape May, and located on the tillable lands along the Delaware easily reached by the Indians coming overland, or in canoes with furs to trade.

From the days when white men first began adventuring up the Delaware River Burlington Island, called Matinicum Island by the Indians, appealed to covetous eyes. The Dutch governor of New York, Peter Stuyvesant, as early as 1624 set up a government house on the island and built a small fort at the lower end. A few years later, disregarding the Dutch, the Swedes took possession of the island, and in 1656 a Swedish vessel sailed up the river and landed goods there. Then the Swedes were dispossessed by the Dutch and the island was claimed by a prominent Dutch settler.

When the English gained supremacy along the Delaware in 1664 the island became occupied as a sort of frontier trading and military station. A letter addressed to Captain William Toms, dated October 6, 1675, by Governor Lovelace, "recommends a good work about Matinicum house on Burlington Island which, strengthened with a considerable guard, would make an admirable frontier."

The first tenant of the island under English rule was Peter Alricks, whose property in Ocean County had been confiscated in 1665 because of hostility to England. Alricks repentantly professed allegiance and was rewarded by the grant to him of the use of the island, which he enjoyed until he was ousted by the Dutch ascendancy in 1673.

It was during Alricks' tenancy, in 1671, that two Dutchmen, Peter Veltscheeder and Christian Samuels, employed on the island by Alricks, were murdered by Indians. Tradition has it that Tashiowycan, in great grief for the death of his sister, said, "The Maneto has killed my sister, and I will go and kill the Christians." He persuaded Wyana-



mettamo to join him and the two Dutchmen became victims of vengeful grief. Friendly Indians offered aid in apprehending and punishing the murderers. One chief suggested that a "kintecoy," an Indian feast and merrymaking, be held and in the midst of it the murderer be knocked on the head. Trouble between the whites and Indians was averted by the prompt action of the latter, who captured and killed the murderer.

The site of Burlington at this time was itself almost an island and was so called. A small stream flowed through the low marshy ground to the south of it, connecting the Assiscunk with the Delaware, and at high tide the enclosed land was practically surrounded by water. Some time about the year 1666 three Dutchmen, Cornelius Jorissen, Julian Marcelis and Jan Claessen, claiming territorial rights sanctioned by Governor Carteret, built a house or two and sold seventeen hundred acres to Peter Jegou, a Frenchman, who bought additional land from the Indians. Jegou also secured a grant to "take up ye land called Leasey Point" and to settle himself there and "hold and keep a house of entertainment for ye accommodation of travelers." Jegou put up a log house, which was said to be the only tavern in that part of the country at the time.

It was from Jegou that the site of Burlington gained its early name of Chygoes Island. Common tradition has it that the name is derived from Chygoe, an Indian chief, who lived here. Antiquarians disagree concerning this. It seems a pity to destroy belief in the popular legend but Henry Armitt Brown, the bi-centennial orator, and Rev. William Allen Johnson, who delivered a lecture on the settlement of Burlington in 1870 while rector of St. Mary's Church, agree that the Indian origin of the name is mythical and that "Chygoe" is simply an improper spelling of Jegou's name. They also agree that the name Leasey, or Lazy

Point, where Jegou's tavern was located, has been spelled four or five different ways and is a corruption of the Dutch word *Lisch Pond*—Water Lily Point.

The location of Leasey Point is also a matter of dispute among historians. It is the accepted belief that Leasey Point was the angle of land formed by the Delaware River and the east bank of the Assiscunk Creek, now the property of the United States Cast Iron Pipe and Foundry Company. While there is some evidence in support of this, the weight of testimony places Leasey Point on the west side of the creek, at the foot of Tatham Street. The east side of the creek was marsh land and remained so until little more than a half century ago, while on the west bank the land was firm down to the water's edge, so desirable and attractive that Jegou would undoubtedly prefer it to the marsh land as a site for the "Point House," as his tavern was called.

The Point House was a well-known hostelry in its day. The old road leading from Manhattan to Virginia crossed the river at Leasey Point and the site of Jegou's tavern was advantageous. When Governor Lovelace visited the Delaware he sent Captain Gosland ahead to notify Jegou to make arrangements for accommodations, and appointments were made with persons to meet the Governor there.

In 1670 the Indians drove Jegou away and plundered the house. Some act of his had aroused resentment. Two years later George Fox, the famous founder of the Society of Friends, was making a missionary tour of the country. He had traveled fifty miles, guided by an Indian, over the foot path which led through the forest from Manhattan, on his way to Virginia, without seeing man, woman, or dwelling house. The day's journey was to end at the Point House. When he arrived at the shore of the Delaware night had fallen and he found Jegou's tavern deserted. Fox makes this casual note in his journal: "We made a fire

and lay there." The next day with Indian canoes he crossed by way of the island to Pennsylvania.

When Jegou returned to Leasey Point his fortunes required mending. The island in the river allured him and offered the needed opportunity. With Henry Jacobse, he assumed the use of it without considering the right to do so. Jegou and Jacobse hailed the coming of the English Quakers with great satisfaction and made themselves useful to the newcomers. Jacobse had a working knowledge of the Indian tongue and was serviceable as an interpreter at the purchase of lands and in the other dealings with the Indians.

Poor Jegou was disillusioned when two of the settlers, Thomas Wright and Godfrey Hancock, entered upon his land at Leasey Point, cut down timber for building houses, planted corn and mowed hay. Suit was brought in the Upland Court in 1679 to recover it and with a verdict for Jegou. Meanwhile, in 1678, he became deputy from the Delaware River district to the Assembly at Elizabethtown.

Prominent among the Dutch pioneers who took up lands on Chygoes Island before the coming of the English Quakers in 1677 was Aarent Schuyler, son of the famous Colonel Peter Schuyler, of Bergen County. He purchased a tract of fifteen hundred acres, extending nearly two miles up the river from the mouth of the creek, and back from the river front to the Columbus Road. With Dutch thrift Schuyler put up a log tavern where the Schuyler Ferry Road joins the River Road, (on the present Henry Atkinson farm), and established a rope ferry, provided with a large scow for transporting teams and passengers across the river.

There was no other tavern in the neighborhood and no other ferry along the Delaware providing accommodation for horse and wagon. The Schuyler Ferry Road, extending

from the River Road to the present State Highway, was opened to afford access to the ferry, and was the first public highway laid out in Burlington County. This brought business to the tavern. The year preceding the coming of the English Quakers, Aarent Schuyler built the first substantial dwelling erected within the limits of Burlington. It stood near the log tavern.

This old Schuyler homestead remained until a half century ago a curious reminder of what must have been a first-class residence for settlers having more than average means. It was built of brick, with its gable end to the road, and the date 1676 was set in the wall with glazed bricks. The foundations were of enormous size, composed of stone resembling limestone. The kitchen fireplace, too, was immense and would take in a full length of cordwood.

With farming their broad acres, ferrying, and tavern keeping, the Schuylers prospered and multiplied. Then came a change. The Schuylers ceased to multiply. The old log tavern, built by the Dutch pioneer, descended to his grandson, Peter, who maintained its reputation for fat pork and first proof whiskey, at the same time officiating as captain of his scow ferry. The old rope ferry and the scow were in course of time superseded by the ferry at the town wharf, and the last remnants of the old log tavern found their way to the wood pile in 1868.



## Coming of the English Quakers

FOR more than thirty years, during the Long Parliament, under the Protectorate of Cromwell, and at the Restoration of Charles II, the English statutes concerning Dissenters was vigorously enforced against members of the Society of Friends. The Conventicle act forbade more than five persons to worship together under any other form than that of the Established Church of England.

Under the careless reign of indolent Charles, special laws were enacted by Parliament and the Quakers were excluded by name from all indulgence. It was an amusement to this easy-going monarch to hear the appeals of Friends who suffered under the cruel policy of the government. He would make promises which he readily forgot or stood too much in awe of Parliament to see carried out.

Because they refused to bear arms, to take oaths, to pay taxes for the support of churches in which they did not worship, to acknowledge the authority of the priesthood, and their determination to worship God when and where and how their consciences directed them, the Society of Friends offended all other sects, exposed themselves to the penalties of existing laws, and suffered cruel persecutions. They were dragged from their places of worship, their meeting houses were torn down, they were fined, mobbed, beaten, set in the stocks, imprisoned in foul jails, and even sold into colonial slavery. Through it all they kept the faith and raised not a hand against any man.

The persecuted Quakers were yearning for peace and comfort in a new land. They had heard fabulous stories of the province of New Jersey from George Fox, their founder, and other missionary travelers, when Lord Berkeley, now grown old and dissatisfied with the prospects of

profit from colonization in West Jersey, offered his share of the province for sale in 1673.

Berkeley received an offer of one thousand pounds from two English Quakers, John Fenwick and Edward Byllinge, and conveyed his interest in the province to Fenwick in trust for Byllinge. A dispute arose between them as to the rightful share of each. The Friends were averse to litigation, and to avoid a scandal the matter was referred to William Penn for arbitration. It was thus that the founder of Pennsylvania was first attracted to lands along the Delaware.

In the decision of Penn the territory was to be divided into one hundred lots, or proprietries, ten of them to be awarded to Fenwick and the other ninety to the creditors of Byllinge, who was involved in financial troubles. Fenwick at once made preparations for the exploitation of his purchase, and in 1675, established a settlement at Salem.

Byllinge turned over his property rights in the province to three of his principal creditors as trustees, William Penn, Gawen Lawrie and Nicholas Lucas. His entire indebtedness was thirty-five hundred pounds sterling. The creditors accepted, in satisfaction for this sum, one-tenth part of West Jersey. The trustees acted promptly and soon sold other shares to different purchasers, who thereby became proprietors with them. A statement was issued setting forth the plans the Proprietors had in view, and a form of government which included many of the provisions of the constitution previously framed by Berkeley and Carteret, was agreed upon by Penn and his associates.

The constitution or form of government thus made, the first experiment of the Quakers in legislation, and from which have sprung many of the existing institutions of the State, was entitled "The Concessions and Agreements of the Proprietors, Freeholders, and Inhabitants of the Prov-

ince of West Jersey in America." The original, engraved on vellum in a well bound quarto volume, is preserved in the office of the Surveyor General of West Jersey, the repository of ancient deeds on West Broad Street, Burlington, N. J.

This remarkable document insured the planting of civil and religious liberty on the shores of the Delaware. It created an executive and legislative power, a Governor to be chosen by an Assembly which should be elected by the votes of the people. "That thereby he may be known as the servant of the people" each member of the Assembly received for wages one shilling a day, and "hath liberty of speech." No one might be deprived of life, liberty or estate without the verdict of a jury; imprisonment for debt was forbidden, the rights of the Indians were to be protected, orphans to be brought up by the State, and religious freedom in its broadest sense guaranteed; and no one "in the least punished or hurt in person, estate or privilege for the sake of his judgment, faith, or worship towards God in matters of religion, for no man nor number of men upon earth have power to rule over men's consciences."

This document was signed March 3, 1676. Three months later these men who were determined to build up in America a government erected on liberal principles wrote: "There we lay a foundation for after ages to understand their liberty as men and Christians, that they may not be brought into bondage but by their own consent, for we put the power in the people."

The Concessions became the common law of the province, were read at the convening and closing of every General Free Assembly, were written in the halls of justice, and solemnly read by the magistrates before the people four times every year, "it being intended and resolved by the help of God and our Concessions that every person inhabit-

ing said province shall be, as far as in us lies, free from oppression and slavery."

The purchasers of lands in West Jersey were two companies of Friends, or Quakers, one from Yorkshire, the other from London. They at once began preparations for colonizing West Jersey and were joined in the adventure by many men from various parts of England. Commissioners sent out by the Proprietors with authority to buy lands from the Indians, inspect the rights of those who claimed property, order the lands laid out, and administer the government for the Proprietors were the first English Quakers to arrive at Chygoes Island, the site of the city of Burlington.

These Commissioners were Thomas Ollive, Daniel Wills, John Kinsey, John Penford, Joseph Helmsley, Robert Stacy, Benjamin Scott, Richard Guy and Thomas Foulks. They were the vanguard of the two hundred and thirty God-fearing and liberty-loving people, seeking an asylum in a new land, who sailed from London in the good ship *Kent*, Godfrey Marlow, master, on a balmy day in early summer, 1677, sped with a lightly flung blessing, as they passed the royal barge on their way down the Thames, from the careless King whose indifference to their welfare at home was driving them from their native shores.

In that far-off day an overseas adventure was not a slight undertaking. The voyage was long, tedious and comfortless. Their first view of the Western world was the harbor of New York. They had turned aside in their journey to inform the lately appointed Governor of New York, Sir Edmund Andros, of their purpose. He demanded written evidence of authority from the Duke of York, through whom the title to lands in the province of New Jersey descended. They had none. They were sorely disturbed upon learning that John Fenwick was a prisoner in New



York at the time for the same omission. A compromise was made by accepting commissions from Governor Andros with the understanding that the settlers would report the circumstance to England.

It was late in the month of August when the *Kent* sailed up the Delaware. A definite location for a permanent settlement had not been determined upon, and the patient passengers disembarked on the 26th near the mouth of Raccoon Creek to remain until that was done. A small settlement of Swedes occupied some scattered dwellings there, not enough to house the more than two hundred unexpected visitors. Many were forced to seek shelter in cow sheds, and stables, and in snake infested tents and caves. Here they endured discomfort and privation while the Commissioners journeyed farther up the river. The first death and the first birth occurred among the settlers while they tarried at Raccoon Creek. John Kinsey, one of the Commissioners, succumbed to exposure and was buried at Burlington, and a daughter was born to Robert and Prudence Power.

Viewing the shore as they passed point after point on their journey up the river the Commissioners were attracted by the charm of "Chygoe's Island," and decided to land here. With a witchery of words Henry Armitt Brown painted for us, fifty years ago in his bi-centennial address, a picture of the spot as it must have appeared when the Commissioners first beheld it. He says: "Beneath a sky more cloudless than English eyes have been wont to see waves the primeval forest, clad in the rainbow garments of the fall. No sound breaks the stillness save the plash of the oars in the water, or the whistling wings of the wild fowl that rise in countless numbers from the marshes. The air is full of the perfume of grapes that hang in clusters on the banks and climb from tree to tree, and the sturgeons

leap before the advancing prow. The startled deer stands motionless upon the beach, and hidden in the tangled thickets the Indian gazes in silent wonder at the pale-faced strangers that have come to take his place in the land of his fathers. Presently the river seems to have come to a stop. On the left is a gravel beach. In the distance in front is an island with a steep red bank washed by the rushing stream and pierced with swallows' holes. To the right a bit of marsh, the mouth of a silvery creek, a meadow sloping to the shore, and then a high bank lined with mulberries and sycamores, and unutterably green. For the first time, and after so many days, the eyes of the founders rested upon Burlington."

As the boat approached the shore William Matlack, an employe of Thomas Ollive, sprang out and was the first of the English settlers to set foot on the spot where Burlington now stands. Matlack became the American ancestor of the family of that name in Burlington County. It is a tradition among them that an Indian chief stood on the bank and greeted the Commissioners hospitably; and that he and Matlack became fast friends.

In making their purchases from the Indians the London Commissioners acquired the tract below the Rancocas Creek with the purpose of starting a town at Arwamus, an Indian settlement near the present city of Gloucester. The portions of land purchased from the Indians were designated as extending from the river to such and such creek, or other outstanding natural boundaries, and were paid for in so many "match coats, guns, hatchets, hoes, kettles, two full boxes of other materials all in number as agreed upon."

The Yorkshire Commissioners had been instructed by the Proprietors to favor their constituents, who were described as "people who might speedily promote the planting of the province." Having this preference they chose

the tract between the Falls of the Delaware and Rancocas Creek, which included "Chygoes Island," and was afterward referred to as "the best lands in the woods."

When this purchase was made the Yorkshire Commissioners found they had not sufficient Indian goods to pay what they had agreed upon. The Indians accepted the goods in hand and made a deed, bearing the date October 10th, 1677, upon the assurance that the whites would not occupy the land until the remainder was paid. The mutual trust and understanding which marked this transaction was typical of all the after dealings between the Quaker settlers and the Indians.

At first the Yorkshire Commissioners decided to locate near the Falls of the Delaware. When they found that the others were likely to settle far from them they proposed to the Londoners to join in starting a town somewhere between the two points. There would be mutual protection and greater safety in numbers. The Londoners saw the wisdom of this and agreed with the Yorkshire Commissioners to build a town in company on "Chygoes Island." That this site was chosen lends to Burlington a legend of antiquity running far back of the settlement by the English, and to a time beyond even the memory of the native Indians whose remote ancestors planted here the oldest Indian town on the Delaware. It was known to them as Techichohocki, meaning "the ancient, or oldest planted land."

These matters adjusted, the laying out of the town was entrusted to Richard Noble, a surveyor who had been in the service of the Duke of York in England, and had come to America two years before with John Fenwick in the ship *Griffin*. Noble was assisted in this work by William Matlack. A broad and imposing main street, (now High Street) running back through the forest southwardly from the river was made the dividing line between the two companies, ten

proprieties on the eastern side for the Yorkshire and ten on the western side for the London Proprietors. But one other street was laid out at first, that along the river, "which is not divided with the rest," writes John Cripps at the time to Henry Stacy in England, "but in small lots by itself; and any one that hath any part in a propriety is to have his share in it. The town lots for every propriety will be about ten or eleven acres, which is only for a house, orchard and gardens; and the corn and pasture ground is to be laid out in great quantities."

Meanwhile the company that had been left behind at Raccoon Creek embarked in small canoes and ascended the Delaware. They were soon joined by some of the colonists who had come with Fenwick to Salem. In November the *Willing Mind*, John Newcombe, master, from London, arrived in the lower Delaware with sixty or seventy passengers, some of whom settled at Salem and others at Burlington. Later in the same month, the flie-boat *Martha*, of Burlington, Yorkshire, sailing from Hull, brought one hundred and fourteen people, most of whom settled near Burlington.

Conditions were now critical. It was already late in the fall and here were more than three hundred people requiring shelter, suffering scarcity of food, and harried by a hastening winter. Everybody became busy. The woods rang with the blows of the builders' axes. There was not time to build log houses. The dwellings first prepared were rude shanties and caves hollowed out in the banks and protected in front with boards. Until these were ready the settlers found slight shelter from the rigors of winter in wigwams, and subsisted on corn and venison supplied by the Indians.

The following spring the settlers began to cultivate the land and provide the necessaries for their support, and to



build better habitations. At last, through the labors of Marshall, a carpenter, William Matlack and John Woolston, assisted by many of the settlers, the place began to take on the appearance of a town and was thought worthy of a name. According to the generally accepted story, the name first given it was New Beverly and it was called so for a time; then Bridlington; and finally, in memory of an old Yorkshire village, the name it bears today, Burlington.

The correctness of this story is doubted by some historians. The original draft of the town, as laid out in 1678, bears the name "Burlington"; and on the map made in the same year by Dankers and Sluyter, who were the first visitors to the settlement, it is called "Borlingtowne." This was but a year after the town was laid out. Dankers and Sluyter were foreigners and the misspelling is a pardonable error.

In that year, on October 10, 1678, the ship *Shield of Stockton*, arrived in the Delaware opposite Burlington, sixteen weeks after her passengers had embarked at Hull. Among her company were Mahlon Stacy, Thomas Lambert, and many more families of good reputation. During the tedious voyage there were two deaths and two births. That night the weather changed suddenly and the river froze, so that next morning the passengers walked ashore on the ice. Such a variable climate must have struck them as being anything but friendly.

The *Shield* was the first emigrant ship to come so far up the Delaware. She was driven up the river by a gale, and when her anchor dragged, was moored to the enormous sycamore tree now standing on the river lawn of C. Ross Grubb. There are antiquarians who dispute the historicity of this tree. The claim has been made that the tree was planted nearly a century later, during Governor Franklin's time, by his coachman, Adam Sheppard. The Davies tree

surgeons were treating this ancient sycamore a few years ago to stop the ravages of time. They made a careful study of the tree and expressed their opinion as experts that it is nearly five hundred years old, an age that justifies the earlier tradition.

Between 1678 and 1681 no less than fourteen hundred persons in five or six ships had come to the shores of the Delaware, some settling at Salem, others at Burlington. In 1682 another large ship arrived and anchored between Philadelphia and Burlington, with three hundred and sixty passengers, some of whom joined the colony at this point. Thus came to Burlington, and in later vessels, the resolute men and women some of whose descendants still flourish among us, the Deacons, the Willses, the Scotts, the Wetherills, the Newbolds, the Smiths, the Grubbs, the Bortons, the Woolmans, the Coopers, the Antrims and the Budds with many others.

Some of the early settlers, unfitted by education or previous habits for plunging into the unbroken forest, became discouraged and subsequently returned to England. Many that came as servants succeeded better than some that brought estates. Others on viewing the country became so impressed with its advantages that they returned to England to dispose of their estates, and came back to Burlington with their entire families and servants.

These pioneers maintained their foothold under great privations. They sheltered their families in wigwams or in houses of the rudest description, and depended largely at first upon the river and the woods for fish and game until crops could be planted and harvested. Even then there were seasons when crops failed, when powder and shot were scarce, and it was difficult for some families to obtain sufficient food from the fields and the forests.

Until 1680 the settlers had no flour mills among them,

but pounded their corn in Indian fashion or ground it in small hand mills. In that year Thomas Ollive built a flour mill on his plantation near the Rancocas, and Mahlon Stacy finished his mill at Trenton. These two were the only mills that ground for the country during several years immediately following the settlement.

Although the settlers at times were sorely pressed for food, the country abounded with all kinds of wild game. Discontented emigrants returning to England circulated the most damaging stories against the condition of the settlers in Burlington and the inhospitable character of the country. These misrepresentations were corrected in numerous letters written from Burlington to England by some of the more prominent of the pioneers. From these, preserved in Smith's History, we have a truthful view of what this neighborhood really was two hundred and fifty years ago.

The creeks and rivers swarmed with fish—rock, catfish, shad, sheep head, sturgeon and herring. The Indians were expert in taking herring in large numbers by using a wicker basket, open on one side, which they dragged in shallow places like a net by long strings of birch bark. The natural grasses were fine fodder for fattening cattle. All kinds of game were plentiful in the woods. Of these the wild turkeys have been exterminated.

Mahlon Stacy, writing to his friends in England in 1680 says: "It is a country that provideth all things for the support and sustenance of man in a plentiful manner. I find the country very apt to answer the expectations of the diligent."

Again Stacy writes, "This is a most brave place; whatever envy or evil spies may speak of it, I could wish you were all here." Admitting that here, as elsewhere, there was some barren land, he adds, "I live well to my content, and in as great plenty as ever I did, and in a far more likely

way to get an estate." Daniel Wills wrote that "if a man cannot live here, I believe he cannot live in any place in the world."

The early settlers quickly developed the capabilities of the soil. Only seven years after Burlington was founded there appears to have been abundance of provisions. Pork and beef were sold at two pence a pound, wheat four shillings sterling a bushel, corn two and sixpence, venison at eighteen pence a quarter and eggs at three pence a dozen. On market days eight and nine fat oxen and cows were killed for sale. In the woods were grapes, walnuts, peaches, cherries, cranberries and strawberries.

Land was then plenty but the population sparse. Twelve shillings and sixpence was about the Indians' price for a thousand acres. No fraud upon the natives stained the character of any purchase made from them in Burlington. The settlers recognized that the original ownership was aboriginal, and treated the red man accordingly. The English Quakers bought only what the Indians voluntarily sold, and paid them to the uttermost farthing.

The people lived on amicable terms with the red men. There were Indian depredations in other parts of the province but Burlington experienced little trouble from them. Shortly after the arrival of the settlers the Indians confessed, in a council at Burlington, that they had been advised to make war on the English on the ground that coats sold to the Indians were infected by smallpox and occasioned an outbreak of the disease among them.

The Indian Kings were sent for, there were eight of them, and were reminded that the settlers had come among them by their own consent, had bought land from them, and paid for it honestly, as well as for all the commodities they had bought, and had been just and kind and respectful to the Indians. One of the Kings replied:—"We are your



brothers and intend to live like brothers with you." He admitted that the smallpox had come in his grandfather's time, and once in his father's time. It could not be the English who brought it. "The Man above" had sent it.

At another conference with the Indians the sale of "strong liquors" to the natives was discussed. One of the Kings told how rum was first sold to them by the Dutch and later by the Swedes. "They are blind," he said, "and have no eyes; they did not see it to be hurtful to us to drink it. But there is a people come to live amongst us that have eyes; they see it to be for our hurt; they are willing to deny themselves the profit of it for our good. We are glad such people are come among us. We must put it down by mutual consent; the cask must be sealed, it must be made fast, it must not leak by day nor by night, in light nor in dark."

Ockanickon, one of their Kings, highly esteemed by the whites for the nobility of his character and his integrity, was frequently taken into the councils of the settlers. When he came to die he bound his successors to maintain friendly relations with the whites. He was attended to his grave, in the Friends burial ground, by many of the English settlers whom he had befriended.

The older Indians seemed to have premonition that they would in time be superseded by the whites. When smallpox broke out among them and carried off so many that the Indians could not bury their dead, an old Indian spoke prophetically before his death and said, "The English shall increase and the Indians decrease." When the great comet of 1680 appeared in the heavens some one asked a Sachem what he thought of that remarkable appearance. He answered gravely, "It means that we Indians shall melt away and this country be inhabited by another people."

As the number of whites grew, and their industries increased, the Indians decreased in number until within

twenty-five years after the *Kent* arrived with the first company of Quaker colonists there was but a small band of red men remaining in Burlington County. They were given permission to sell their lands and removed to an Indian settlement on Oneida Lake, in New York.

Such were conditions in Burlington and its neighborhood in the earliest years of its history. But the church, the press, and the school had been established, and in the burying ground, early opened, the remains of some of the pioneer settlers already rested.



## When Town Meeting Ruled

**B**URLINGTON was a quiet, pleasant little community during the earlier years of its history, whose people were serious minded and gave grave attention to matters both large and small. The proceedings of the early town meetings reveal this. The ancient volume containing these records has been well preserved. It is now in the custody of Township Clerk Aaron Shedaker and was an interesting exhibit at the Jamestown Exposition.

In browsing through the proceedings of that far-off time one is impressed with the firm insistence by the rulers of the town upon a just recognition of the rights of the community and a rigid observance of law and order. From a twentieth century point of view some of the enactments of the fathers of the town seem quaint and curious and are highly entertaining. The record was begun in April, 1694.

For some time prior to that date there had been uncertainty as to the legality of the right assumed by the Assembly, September 26th, 1682, in making a grant of Burlington Island to the town that its revenues might be applied to maintaining a free school. Four years earlier on November 14, 1678, Sir Edmund Andros, Governor of New York, who had assumed jurisdiction over New Jersey, leased the island for seven years to Robert Stacy, brother of Mahlon, one of the first to settle in West Jersey. Peter Jegou and Henry Jacobse were cultivating a portion of the island without authority to do so. Within two weeks Sheriff Cantwell ejected them and put Stacy in possession. The early settlers were greatly indebted to Jegou and Jacobse for valuable assistance and this act of Stacy was strongly disapproved.

A score or more of peaceful citizens, headed by Thomas Ollive, feeling the obligation of gratitude, remonstrated

against the Stacy lease and appealed for the continued tenure of Jegou and Jacobse.

Stacy disliked the unpopularity he had gained. Perhaps he became doubtful of the validity of his lease when the West Jersey Proprietors assumed supremacy of the title to West Jersey over the unwarranted assumption of authority by Governor Andros, and when King James issued an order forbidding any notice to be taken of commissions, orders or warrants issued by Andros as Governor of New Jersey.

Stacy, and George Hutcheson who appears to have been associated with him in possession, conveyed the island to the town of Burlington, but only conveyed the title under the lease. It is believed that Stacy, who was a member of the General Assembly, suggested the grant of the island by that body to the town of Burlington "for the encouragement of learning and the better education of youth."

To add to the uneasiness of the townspeople a deed for an earlier grant of the island made by authority of the Land Commissioners and signed by George Hutcheson, Thomas Hutcheson and Mahlon Stacy, which had been placed in the hands of Thomas Budd, was reported missing and two of the signers to this grant, Thomas Hutcheson and Mahlon Stacy, were dead.

In the meantime William Penn had made claim to the island in 1683. He asserted his title to "ye river, soyle and islands thereof," according to his understanding of the letters patent he had received from the Crown. Penn claimed that the Jersey settlers were bounded by the east side of the river and could not go beyond low water for land. He asked the people of Burlington to give up the island peacefully. If they refused "let what follows lye at their door." Commissioners were appointed on both sides and although frequent conferences were held each contending party maintained its right.



A few years later Captain Charles Gookin, a former Deputy Governor of Pennsylvania, petitioned the King for a grant of "some islands lying in the midst of the Delaware River between the Provinces of New Jersey and Pennsylvania in America not included in the grants of said Provinces." Gookin based his plea on his right to reward for his military services to the Crown and reimbursement for the expenditure of his private fortune in maintaining his state as Deputy Governor.

Vigorous representations were made by Col. Daniel Coxe and other leading men of Burlington to the Lord Commissioners of Trade and Plantations, sitting in London, against this grant. The matter was referred to the King's Attorney General and Solicitor General, who made a careful study of the clauses whereby the boundaries of the Provinces were ascertained in the Duke of York's grant in 1664 and the Crown's charter to William Penn in 1680.

They reported that in their opinion "the Delaware River and the islands lying therein" were the property of the Crown. When the Lords of Trade received this opinion they gave consideration to the representations made by Col. Coxe and recommended that an exception be made in the case of Matinicum Island and that it be granted to the town of Burlington and made a part of the Province of New Jersey.

The General Assembly, however, believed that entire reliance for the town's title rested upon the Act of 1682. To confirm that title a special session of the Assembly was held in Burlington on October 3, 1693, and an order made that a town meeting be held on April 5, 1694, "to assert and maintain their title and right to the island by all such lawful ways and means as from time to time thenceforth to them should seem meet and expedient."

The first entry in the minute book of the township tells

of this meeting, held conformably with the order of the Assembly, to form a government for the town. The first officers chosen by the "freeholders and inhabitants of the town," were Richard Basnett, Burgess; John Tatham, Recorder; George Hutcheson, Treasurer; James Marshall and James Hill, Councillors; James Hill, Town Clerk; and Bernard Devonish, "Serjeant Clerk of the Market Cryer of the Towne and Officer to view the Assise of Bread and Liquors and to supervise and Examine Weights and Measures." "Then it was Ordered and Concluded by unanimous Consent that the Town of Burlington should Assert and Maintain their Title and right to the Island in the River Delaware commonly called Stacy's, alias Mattinecunk Island."

The Burgess and the people "pledged themselves, their heirs and administrators to bear their proportionate share and quota of such charges as might be incurred by such action." It was also ordered that a guarantee be obtained from George Hutcheson, the surviving signer to the deed of the Land Commissioners, that in case the original deed remained undiscovered another conveyance of the island to the town would be made on behalf of himself and the heirs of Thomas Hutcheson and Mahlon Stacy. Following this vigorous expression a period of three years elapsed before further reference to the town's title to the island is found in the record.

An outstanding feature of the town's early activities was the business done in the public market houses and at the fairs which were held semi-annually in May and October. These markets were established in 1682, and for the better conduct of them and of the fairs, the Assembly passed an act giving the town authority "in such matters as relate to fences, public highways and all other things as usually fall within the compass of ourselves as a corporation."

An idea of the important place the fairs filled in the life of the town may be gathered from a record in the minutes of the Friends Meeting of August 4, 1697, when it was ordered, "that our next Monthly Meeting be deferred one week longer than the usual Day because the fair falling on that day the meeting should be." Nearly all the yearly trading of the town was done at these fairs, and this action by the Friends Meeting was not to furnish opportunity for frivolity but in the interest of good business.

The regulation of these fairs occupied much of the town meeting's attention. One of the earliest entries in the ancient record, under date of April 23, 1694, is an enactment prohibiting the sale of provisions or grain of any kind in the market before nine o'clock in the morning from April 1 till the last of September, and before ten o'clock from October 1 till the last of March, and after sunset at any season of the year. At the same session Joseph Pricket was deprived of his license on account of drunkenness and disorder in his public house, but was allowed three weeks to sell the liquors he had on hand.

Profanation of the Sabbath "by any ways and means" was considered at the meeting of April 16, 1695, and forbidden under penalty. It was also ordered that "no negro shall work on First days." Slavery was an institution in New Jersey for a century or more until public sentiment was aroused against it by John Woolman's persistent pleas in the name of religion and humanity. The negroes in the town were mostly slaves and we find many records of local legislation concerning them. No negro was allowed to "buy nor sell otherwise than in behalf of his master." Persons buying from or selling to them received the same punishment as the negro.

The town wharf was then a vexing problem, as it has continued to be. An order was made on May 6, 1695,

"that it be repaired by subscription," a method which would receive no endorsement in this day. A residence of forty days in the town made one liable "to serve or to contribute to all and every of the labours and taxes that by ye town meeting shall be Enjoyned for the Public good and benefit of ye said town." Single persons were required to pay as much as householders.

Intemperate drinking and disorderly conduct were features of the semi-annual fairs and called forth the condemnation of the Friends Meeting. On April 20, 1696, Town Meeting took the matter up and ordered that unlicensed persons "should not sell any strong liquors by the pot at Fair times." Merchants and other unlicensed persons were prohibited from selling rum or brandy in less quantity than a pint and a fine of ten shillings for every such sale was exacted. Riding or galloping during fair time "betwixt the market and the water side" was prohibited.

A pound was ordered to be built about this time for the care of straying animals. To defray the cost of building each man was charged "a penny for each sheep, sixpence for each beast, and sixpence for each horse he hath."

Burlington's sidewalk problem has at least the honor of antiquity for we find the Town Meeting taking it up as early as June, 1696, when it was ordered "that all persons having houses and lots fronting High Street from the river side unto the Market house in Burlington shall be obliged to repair and make fit for walking the street opposite to their respective lots and houses on both sides of the said street to the distance of ten feet to the streetward and also Defend and Guard the same by setting up posts and rails along the said repaired spaces." A penalty of five pounds was exacted for every three months the work remained unfinished.

On December 29, 1697, the town meeting again took



up the matter of the title to the island by debating warmly and resolving mightily. Having thus eased its conscience it then relapsed into a quiescent state concerning the matter for a period of thirty years. In the meantime Robert Stacy, who held the lease and had induced the Assembly to make the grant of the island to the town, died.

The negro became the subject of local legislation once more in 1698. The town meeting decided that their colored brother must either go to church on Sunday or remain within his home. It was ordered that every negro "found wandering about within the limits of the said town on First days during the time of religious meeting and not attending any such meetings or abiding at their respective homes, or quarters, Shall be put in the stocks and there continue till the meetings are over." Negroes found wandering about on Sunday nights after sunset were put in the stocks and kept there all night, and on the next day were whipped "at their master's charge" and kept in custody until the masters redeemed them by paying the whipping charge of two shillings sixpence.

John Hollinshead, who had been chosen Burgess for the year 1698, refused to acknowledge the authority of Governor Hamilton and the government. The town meeting declared him "wholly disabled and unqualified to act any longer," and appointed Thomas Bibbs to be Burgess until the next election. Regulating line fences between neighbors and the just apportionment of the expense incurred in erecting them was considered at the meeting of October, of that year, and a committee was appointed to appraise partition fences.

Personal responsibility of the individual for care of the highways was stressed by action of the town meeting of November 22, 1706, when it was ordered that all inhabitants of the town be summoned "to come and work at the

Highways with their teams and other hands as the law directs." Surveyors of Highways were appointed to supervise the work.

Meanwhile, the West Jersey Society of Proprietors had continued active in the matter of the title to the island. An appeal from them to the Crown brought an acknowledgment, in 1702, that the right of government passed to those to whom the grant of the soil had been made. The Proprietors then passed to the West Jersey Society a survey made by Thomas Gardner of all that island bounded round by low water mark, called and known by the Indian name Matinicum Island. He found it to contain four hundred acres.

This survey was made to convey the island to Governor Robert Hunter with the presumed purpose of vesting the title in the constituted authorities of the province of New Jersey at that time. The Governor took title to the island January 10, 1710.

Apprehension was felt that this action might lead to some disposition by the executive authority at variance with the purposes to which the Act of Assembly of 1682 had dedicated it. An appeal was made to Governor William Burnet, who had been appointed Governor when Hunter returned to England in 1719. That fear proved groundless. Governor Burnet not only respected the town's title and interest in the island but spared no pains or cost to make it a pleasant resort for the people of Burlington.

Then on March 29, 1727, Thomas Wetherill appeared before the town meeting with the Robert Stacy lease of the island and a receipt from Thomas Budd. This seemed to give assurance that the right and title of the town to the island was settled, and the town meeting began to conform to the provisions of the grant by paying attention to the purposes for which the grant was made. It proceeded to

the appointment of a board of overseers, or managers, consisting of "seven persons, to inspect, inquire and manage the island." The town meeting, however, retained dominance over the acts of this board. The members appointed by the town meeting on that first board of island managers were, Daniel Smith, Thomas Wetherill, Jonathan Wright, Solomon Smith, Rowland Ellis, Isaac Pearson and Thomas Shreve.

"In the better keeping of the peace and punishing such as Sabbath breakers, riders and such," a new pair of stocks was erected by subscription in 1720. The subscription method of providing for certain public needs seems to have worked easily and satisfactorily.

The furnishing of staves to the two town constables was gravely debated before a decision was reached to furnish these implements of authority to the guardians of the peace with instructions to deliver them to their successors in office "that the staves might remain successively in the service of the town."

The town meeting in 1722 assumed the responsibility of fixing the value of "the specie now to pass current" gold "in all public payments at five shillings sixpence, the penny-weight, and a grain at two and three quarters pence, silver according to the late Queen Anne's proclamation, dollars at four shillings according to proclamation money, and English coppers for one pence." It was in 1726 that the date of the town meeting and election of officers was changed to the second Tuesday in March.

An unique office was that of the Town Crier, "chosen to do the town's business," to go about the streets ringing a bell, stopping at street corners and making vociferous announcement of sales, public meetings and other events, and proclaiming the orders of the town meeting. The bell, purchased by voluntary subscription, was furnished him and he

was held accountable for the return of it to the city when he was dismissed from office.

Running through the record of the town meetings there is frequent reference made to another official known as the "Chamberlain," whose duties were multifarious. His chief occupation seems to have been the management of the markets and the fairs. He was given the privilege "to sett up all stalls used by Foreigners at Fairs" and collected the rentals. We find the Chamberlain still in charge of the markets when control passed to the city government, established after the act of incorporation of 1784.

Ten years later, when a new market house was built at the intersection of High and East Union Streets the Chamberlain was charged with the duty of having the deed for the lot recorded, paying for the same out of monies he had in hand, the document to be preserved by him for the city. He also paid the Commissioners for the cost of putting up the building. At the same time he was directed to replace "the publick pumps of the city and the one near his own door."

At the town meeting in 1799 a pair of andirons, shovel and tongs, and an iron cap or fender for the stove in the new City Hall, and a sheet of iron to be placed on the floor before the stove, were ordered.

The Court House had been removed to Mount Holly in 1796. The jail remained in Burlington. The inconvenience occasioned by the distance between the two was considered by the town meeting of 1804. It was ordered that the jail and lot in Burlington be sold and the accruing funds be appropriated to the erection of a new jail on the county property in Mount Holly.

In that same year it was ordered that "the next election for township officers be by ballot."



## Burlington Becomes a City

QUITE early in its history the settlers at Burlington began to believe that they had founded a town which would outstrip all rivals and become the chief commercial port on the Delaware, none of them foreseeing that Philadelphia was to become an overwhelming rival in the future. When that early period is reviewed it would seem that there was reason for cherishing that ambition. Burlington was then the only town in West Jersey, except Salem in Fenwick's colony.

In April, 1680, Mahlon Stacy was writing that, "Burlington will become a place of trade quickly; for here is way for trade; I, with eight more, last winter, bought a good ketch of fifty tons, freighted her out at our own charge, and sent her to Barbados, and so to sail to Salterturgas, to take in part of her lading in salt, and the other part in Barbados goods as she came back; which said voyage she hath accomplished very well, and now rides before Burlington discharging her lading, and so to go to the West Indies again; and we intend to freight her with our own corn." These sailings were successful.

The following year by an act of Assembly, "all vessels bound to the province" were "obliged to enter and clear" at its "chief town and head" the "port of Burlington." It was not long before vessels clearing from "the port of Burlington" were carrying cargoes to and arriving from, the principal ports of the world, and shipments of the products of the country were regularly exchanged for merchandise abroad. Salt, sugar, molasses, rum, hardware and even luxuries were imported by the merchants. There was very little money in the province and none in general circulation, but these goods were readily exchanged for anything the farmer produced.

This commercial activity on the Delaware excited the cupidity of the Duke of York. Through his agent he began to exact customs duties from all vessels ascending the Delaware to the port of Burlington and intermediate settlements. The Quaker settlers made vigorous protest after protest until the Duke became wearied of them and referred the matter to Commissioners. Then they went to the Commissioners with such intelligent and forceful argument in behalf of undisputed freedom of commerce for the colony that the Commissioners were convinced, and West Jersey became a free and independent province.

Burlington had become the chief trading center for the entire territory from the Falls of the Delaware to the Rancocas, and even beyond these boundaries. Two market houses had been built in 1691 and fairs were held semi-annually, in May and November, under authority granted by the Legislature in 1693. The first market was built near the boat landing, in the center of High Street near Pearl Street; the second in the center of High Street just north of Broad Street. Naturally there was intense rivalry between them for the trade of the town and the neighboring country.

The Court House, located at the middle intersection of High and Broad Streets, was built at the same time with the nearby market, both being under the supervision of Thomas Budd and Francis Collins, each of whom received for his services one thousand acres of unappropriated land. Thomas Budd was among those who arrived and settled at Burlington in 1678. He became a leading man in the province. He served three terms as a member of the Assembly and was one of the chief promoters of the erection of the Friends' Meeting House in 1678. Budd traveled extensively in New Jersey and Pennsylvania and in 1685 published in London, "A True Account of the Country." He

removed to Philadelphia in that year, where he died in 1698.

For more than a century the courts of the county were held in Burlington and offenders against the law were confined in the nearby jail, which occupied the rear of the lot where the Broad Street M. E. Church now stands. On market days, fair days and court days Burlington was a busy town and the neighborhood of Broad and High Streets has never been more briskly active than in those early days.

That old Burlington Court held a strong hand over the settlement. In the old record of its proceedings we find that the Court not only punished offenders against, and adjudicated differences between neighbors, but also assumed the authority to fix the price of rum. The attitude of the Court is best described by an excerpt from the record of the session held in Burlington, March 25, 1681: "We whose names are hereunder written, being chosen Commissioners for ye Province of West Jersey from ye 25th of ye 1st month called March, 1681, for one whole year next ensuing, by ye common date of ye people, do solemnly promise that we will truly and faithfully discharge our respective trusts according to ye laws of ye said Province and honor of ye Commissioners thereof, in our respective offices and duties, and to do equal justice and right to all men, according to our best skill and judgment, without corruption, favor or affection by us. Robert Stacy, Thomas Ollive, Samuel Jennings, Thomas Budd, John Thompson, Thomas Lambert, Mahlon Stacy, Michael Guy, Edward Bradway."

"William Emley was chosen Sheriff and took oath of office for one whole year commencing from 25th of 1st month, called March, 1681." "Thomas Wood and John Woolston were chosen as Constables for one whole year." Daniel Leeds was chosen by the Commissioners as Surveyor

of West Jersey. His fees were as follows: For first one hundred acres, 10s; for second, 5s; for 3d, 2s. 6d.

The session of February 20, 1682, when the Court was composed of Samuel Jenings (Governor), Robert Stacy, Mahlon Stacy, William Biddle, Thomas Budd, John Chaffee, John Cripps and Elias Farre, Justices, ordered "that from and after ye first day of March next ensuing, cyder shall not be sold for more than four pence ye quart, and rumme shall not be sold for more than one shilling sixpence per quart. This is to continue in force until further ordered."

The Court held at Burlington, August 5, 1682, ordered "that there shall be a convenient logg house for a prison built in Burlington for ye Government of this Province with all convenient speed, and Samuel Jenings, jailor, together with Thomas Gardiner at ye request of ye Court, shall procure the same to be built, and are to be reimbursed for their charges therein."

By Daniel Leeds' map, prepared in 1696, the following streets had been opened: High Street, Broad Street and York Street, which were named on the plan, and Pearl Street (first called River Street), Wood Street, Talbot Street, Ellis Street, Federal Street, Green Street and Washington Avenue, which received their names later. About this time, in 1698, Gabriel Thomas was writing in his *History of West Jersey* a description of Burlington telling of the commodious dock and many fine wharves for vessels—"A delicate great market house" with a spacious hall overhead where the Court sessions were held, a prison adjoining it, the fairs held every year, the many kind of tradesmen and "the splendid country residences outside of the town." All this within twenty-one years after the coming of the English.

Burlington enjoyed distinction for pre-eminence in the





COUNTRY ESTATE OF DEPUTY GOVERNOR JENINGS

Occupied by him from 1689 to 1708. Now the Green Hill Farm on the Oxmead Road.



province in the days when New York City was referred to as "little New York." It was a seat of government, one of the two capitals of New Jersey, the other being at Amboy. The Legislature met here and at Amboy alternately; and the Supreme Courts as well. It was the place of meeting of the Council of Proprietors, and their successors have continued to observe the ancient custom by meeting here annually on the northwest corner of Broad and High Streets.

In earliest days the Secretary of the Province, Thomas Revel, who was also Registrar of Burlington, and lived in the dwelling on East Pearl Street erected in 1685, now occupied by Annis Stockton Chapter, D. A. R., had his office in this city and remained here until 1795 when the Secretary was required to remove to Trenton.

Samuel Jenings, deputy for Edward Byllinge to act as the first Colonial Governor and who afterward, in 1688, was made Commissioner of Deeds and became Speaker of the Assembly in 1707, had his office and town residence on High Street near Pearl Street, and a fine country estate to which he occasionally retired, on the Oxmead Road.

Thomas Ollive, the second Provincial Governor, resided in the building now known as the Alcazar Hotel; and Dr. Daniel Coxe, the greatest proprietor of West Jersey, who figured largely in the affairs of the province and became Governor in 1687, had his dwelling on the river bank, occupied later by his eminent son, Col. Daniel Coxe, Commander of the Crown's forces in West Jersey, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, and member of the Assembly, who planned a form of constitution for the colonies along lines very similar to that framed by the Constitutional Convention of 1787, and thus gave to Burlington a distinction which is one of the glories of her rich historic past.

Thomas Gardiner, the Treasurer of West Jersey, and first Speaker of the Assembly after the union of the govern-

ments of East and West Jersey, in 1702, lived at 228 High Street; William Franklin, the last of the Royal Governors, who served from 1763 until he was deposed in 1776 for his attempt to coerce the House of Assembly into allegiance to Great Britain, held his state in a mansion on the river bank, the site of which is now covered by the home of C. Ross Grubb; Joseph Bloomfield, twice Governor from 1801 to 1812, ruled New Jersey from the residence now occupied by James H. Birch. In fact it was well nigh impossible to transact the business of the province without coming to Burlington to confer with government officials residing here.

Burlington had grown to such importance in 1687 that its meridian and latitude were assumed for the calculations of the first almanac which was prepared by Daniel Leeds, and printed and sold by William Bradford, the printer, his first publication after setting up his press at Kensington, near Philadelphia. In 1681, Burlington was declared to be the chief town and head of the province and it was provided that a highway be surveyed and constructed between Burlington and Fenwick's colony at Salem. The following year the General Free Assembly of the Province of West Jersey confirmed the declaration that Burlington "should from thereafter be the chief city and town therein."

The town of Burlington was incorporated in October 1693, and in the act it was provided for the "avoiding of future strife and various controversies," which might arise, that a survey of the town be made and recorded, "according to those bounds and limits which nature seemed to direct, which survey being made the streets of said town shall be laid out as formerly, to the end that the quantity of the whole, and the quantity of the public streets deducted out of the whole, being known and ascertained, every proprietor and person interested in proprietries may know the exact proportion and quantity they might respectively enjoy out



of the remainder." In this survey Broad Street was laid out as it now is and thus became vested in the "Freeholders and Inhabitants of Burlington."

For a quarter of a century after the founding of Burlington West Jersey was governed according to the provisions of the "Concessions and Agreements." The authority of the Proprietors had long been questioned. In 1702 the Proprietors of East and West Jersey made a surrender to Queen Anne and New Jersey became a royal province. Prior to that time the Governors were appointed by the Assembly. After 1702, and until 1776, they were appointed by the Crown.

On May 7, 1733, Governor William Cosby, the sixth Royal Governor, granted a charter ordering the boundaries of Burlington to the limits of the township. This charter was afterward confirmed by the Legislature in 1748, and held good until August 28, 1784, when the Legislature by act defined and established the "City and Port of Burlington" to be "extending three miles in length upon the river Delaware, to wit; one mile up the river from the town wharf of the said city, and two miles down the river from the same, and extending at right angles one mile from the said river."

Four months later, on December 21, 1784, the town and port of Burlington, "as already established by law, and including all the lands, country, islands, and harbors within the boundaries aforesaid," were declared a city and incorporated by the name of Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of Burlington. The first municipal officers after Burlington became a city were: Mayor, Bowes Reed; Aldermen, James Sterling, William P. Sprague, John Hendry; Common Council, "Mr. Stiles," "Mr. Schuyler," "Mr. Smith," "Mr. Mitchell," Joshua M. Wallace, and "Mr. Jones." Common Council was composed of but six

members until the enactment of 1851 which increased the number to eleven. A supplement to this charter, enacted in 1868, increased the number to twelve.

By 1794 much of the business enjoyed by the two rival public market houses had passed to private stores and markets. In that year the two ancient contenders for the trade of the town were demolished and a new, long, narrow market was erected by the city in the center of East Union Street (between the present Weaver Pharmacy and Alexander's Delicatessen), with a narrow passage way on either side of East Union Street. The main building, facing on High Street, was a two-story brick structure. The upper room was used as the City Hall. The jail, or dungeon, as it was called, was in the basement. On the High Street front stood the stocks, and the whipping post for the punishment of petty offenders occupied a prominent position along the curb in front of the Market House, directly between the drug store on the southeast corner of High and Union Streets and the tavern which then stood on the northeast corner. The law called for a given number of lashes—usually fifteen—"well laid on"—with either rattan or twisted birch. Sometimes the punishment would be inflicted two or three times a week, according to the extent of the offence. The majority of persons whipped were colored and generally for stealing either sheep or chickens, although there was sometimes a burglar under the lash. Two or three hundred people would always assemble around the post to witness the whippings and the disgrace was as keen as the punishment. A whipped man rarely committed the second offence.

The last whipping master in Burlington was Isaac Hancock, who was elected Constable three years before the Legislature of New Jersey abolished the whipping post in 1837. In those days the duty of a constable was exceedingly



OLD TOWN HALL AND MARKET

At intersection of High and East Union Streets; built in 1794; demolished in 1852.





dangerous and it was absolutely necessary to travel fully armed at all times. Hancock was constantly pursuing runaway slaves and fugitives from justice and these were generally ugly customers to handle. His orders were to shoot and he did not hesitate to do it.

The main building of the Market House was surmounted by a tower which contained a clock made in Burlington by John Hollinshead. It had but one long hand. The points between the figures which marked the hours were four, representing the quarters into which the hour was divided. Although when the spear of the hand pointed to the space between the dots the time indicated was indefinite, yet this faithful old clock was true when the hammer struck the beginning of every new hour. The key for winding the clock was kept in the cellarway and the clock was faithfully wound once in each week.

It was a good old clock, but the spirit of improvement seized the Council, and the market house, steeple and clock were sentenced to dissolution. The old clock was sold to a jeweler in Philadelphia and in the seventies was still doing duty somewhere in Pennsylvania. The bell that hung in the steeple was broken when rung too vigorously on a Fourth of July and was sold for old metal. The old wooden clock face, an interesting relic, stood in the yard of John Larzere on St. Mary Street as late as the Centennial Year, 1876. When this building was torn down in 1852 a new market house was erected on what is known as Market Place, facing East Union Street. It outlived its usefulness a half century ago and was remodeled for occupancy by the Endeavor Fire Company.

Some of the briskness that marked the movement of affairs in Burlington was lost when the County Seat was removed to Mount Holly in 1796. This removal was the result of an act of the Legislature of November 18, 1794,

directing that an election be held for the purpose of deciding the location of the county seat, and authorizing the building of a County Court House. The contest created no little excitement. Mount Holly was chosen by a plurality of two hundred and forty-four over Burlington and Columbus, the vote being as follows: Mount Holly, 1676; Burlington, 1432; Columbus, 142. Though outstripped in this respect Burlington continued to be the leading community in the county and has remained so to this day.

The early civil organization of Burlington was the township form of government. The boundaries of the town extended to the limits of the present township, and at one time even beyond. Public affairs were administered by officers chosen by a town meeting which legislated for the community. The act of incorporation of 1784 circumscribed the city's boundary to lesser limits than the township and set up a form of city government; but when the township was erected by Legislative enactment in 1798 the city was included as a part of the township, and Burlington acquired a dual civil entity. The city was a government of itself and within itself, and yet an integral part of the civil organization of the township, with two sets of officials, its own municipal organization and a Township Committee as another governing body, with a Township Assessor and Collector of Taxes.

This dual government imposed dual taxation upon the residents of the city. They were assessed by two sets of taxing officials, received and paid two tax bills, one to the city and one to the township, and participated in two local elections, one for city officials and one for township officials, occurring one week apart in early March of each year. The residents of the township outside the city limits, paid but the one tax bill and voted at but one election.

Public affairs were regulated not only at the stated meet-

ings of Common Council but, to some extent and in certain matters, by the annual Town Meetings held in March of each year. These meetings were the political forum of local solons. Held in the interest of political economy they were often a political comedy. The business was enlivened, not only by controversies between aspiring orators who aired various views concerning the conduct of township affairs, but by animated altercations and bitter brawling between personal and political enemies.

This anomalous situation ended when sentiment in favor of a political divorce of the City from the Township led to an agreement for a separation made at a town meeting held in 1894. At the session of the Legislature of 1894-95 the necessary enactment was passed.

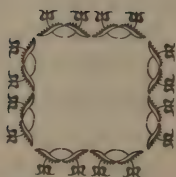
Five years after its incorporation in 1784, the City of Burlington had one hundred and sixty houses and eleven hundred inhabitants. In 1797 there were two hundred and fourteen houses and seventeen hundred and fourteen inhabitants; in 1803 two hundred and eighty houses and twenty-two hundred and fifty-six inhabitants; and in 1814 about five hundred houses and thirty-two hundred inhabitants.

The record of the succeeding century is not available but near its close, in 1910, the population appears to have increased to eight thousand three hundred and thirty-six; and in 1915 to nine thousand and forty. The correctness of these enumerations had always been questioned, and when the census of 1920 indicated a net increase of but five inhabitants in five years the absurdity of the return was apparent.

Hundreds of houses have been erected within the city limits since 1910. All are occupied. Many dwellings have become apartments, each housing two or more families. The enrollment of the public schools has well nigh doubled. In addition to this impressive evidence the accepted ratio

of inhabitants based upon the official registration of voters indicates a present day population of more than twelve thousand. With the adjacent communities, including a large farming area, the total population depending upon Burlington numbers nearly thirty thousand.

The municipal officers in 1927 are: Mayor, Thomas S. Mooney; Aldermen, Robert Turner (deputy Mayor), and Henry Bosshard; Common Council, Harold V. Holmes, President; William C. Jones, Joseph Brotz, Albert Zimmerman, George P. Rigg, James W. Watson, Nathaniel G. Johnson, J. Park McConnell, Charles J. Simons, William P. Young, William Price, Gilbert E. Adams. City Clerk, Walter W. Marrs; City Treasurer, Mrs. Elwood P. Hughes; City Attorney, Ernest Watts.





## The Ripening Years

NO better class of men and women came to found settlements in America than the early inhabitants of Burlington. Simplicity of habit, contentment of mind, sincerity of purpose and unobtrusive hospitality were their intrinsic traits. They had intellectual ambitions, too, far beyond those of most settlements of its size in those early days.

It was an assumption among them that one man did not consider himself better than another on account of his worldly possessions, but all were on an equality. So they created here a quaint little democratic community.

These plain thinking, plain living people who came here seeking freedom of worship began at once the exercise of that God-given right. One of the first acts, along with making provision for home shelter, was to set up a place of meeting under a tent made from a sail of the ship *Kent*. Then, as dwellings arose, meetings were held at the houses of members. Within a year a Monthly Meeting was established.

The earliest visitors to record their impressions of the Friends who settled in Burlington were two Dutchmen, Joseph Dankers and Peter Sluyter, sent out by the Labadists to reconnoiter for that sect. In the journal kept by them they describe a Friends Meeting which they attended in Burlington in 1679, in this wise: "What they uttered was mostly in one tone and the same thing until we were tired and came away."

It is related that the Dutchmen enjoyed the peach brandy made by the Quakers, and were much surprised to find on the window sill of the house where they breakfasted a copy of Virgil, "as if it were a common hand book." They formed the strange opinion that the Quakers were "the

most worldly of men in their deportment and conversation" and that they claimed a culture they did not possess.

The houses of the English settlers are described by these two early travelers thus: "They first make a wooden frame the same as they do in Westphalia and at Altona, but not so strong; they then split the boards of clapboard so that they are like cooper's pipe staves only they are not bent. These are made very thin with a large knife, so that the thickest end is about a pinck (little finger) thick, and the other is made sharp like the end of a knife. They are about five or six feet long and are nailed on the outside of the frame, with the ends lapped over each other. They are not usually laid so close together as to prevent your sticking a finger between them, in consequence either of their being not well joined or the boards being crooked. When it is cold and windy the best people plaster them with clay."

Such were the homes in 1679. Only ten years later Gabriel Thomas was writing of "the fine stately brick houses," and country estates in Burlington. The roads were broad, grassy and tree shadowed, the streets were well trodden, and the town had an air of sober thrift, sound prosperity and solid comfort. With this background one's imagination paints a pleasing picture of the Quaker families attending service on First day. The costume of the men, aside from jackets and small clothes, uniformly drab in color, consisted of low buckled shoes, broad brimmed hat and heavy cane. The women wore woolen gowns and coal scuttle bonnets, elbow sleeves and mitts and a kerchief folded modestly across the bosom. The country lasses rode on a pillion, a pad on the horse's back, behind the saddle and on which a second person, usually a woman, might ride.

William Penn, when Governor of Pennsylvania, and other great men of those early times, including James Logan and Thomas Lloyd, found minds congenial to their own in



OFFICE OF SAMUEL JENINGS, FIRST DEPUTY GOVERNOR

Here Franklin printed first Colonial money; Isaac Collins printed Continental money; first *New Jersey Gazette* printed here, and *Smith's History of New Jersey*.





Burlington among the Quakers who were prominent in the Meeting. Here they met Samuel Jenings, the famous Deputy Governor for Edward Byllinge, Thomas Ollive, the Second Governor, John Kinsey, Edward Hunloke, Thomas Gardiner, Thomas Budd and others.

Jenings' office was a little one-story English brick structure which stood on the west side of High Street near Pearl Street. An immense thumb latch distinguished the door. It was attached to a base plate perforated with the letters "H.R.H." signifying the Proprietors' office under the King. While the Friends were erecting the little brick school house at York and Penn Streets, this building was occupied for school purposes. It was to become famous historically, also as the printing office in which Benjamin Franklin was employed in 1726 to print the colonial money of New Jersey, and, later on, as the print shop of Isaac Collins, the King's printer, and where Samuel Smith's *History of New Jersey*, an invaluable historical reference book today, was printed in 1765.

A story comes down to us of one of Penn's visits to Governor Jenings, himself a Quaker minister, that observing the approach of Penn, who disliked the use of tobacco, Jenings and his friends hastily put away their pipes. The odor of burning tobacco remained in the air and Penn mildly rebuked them by saying he was glad to observe they were ashamed of the habit. Jenings, always apt at repartee, promptly retorted that it was fear of hurting a weak brother, not shame, that prompted them to put away their pipes.

To gather on a summer evening, with their neighbors on the front stoops, to stroll through the embowered streets and the nearby forest, to watch the arrival of the stage wagon and the packet boat, and later on the steamboat, and to sit at their tea tables under the trees at their doors, were satisfying recreations for the plain people of the little

town. This latter practice was long continued. It was an adventure for the unsophisticated folk of Burlington to visit the island in the Delaware. On the first settlement of the town Edward Byllinge, the Proprietary Governor of West Jersey, had the island surveyed and gave permission to the townspeople to use it as "a place of resort in fair weather and on holidays."

The island played a prominent part in the early affairs of Burlington. When the Indians were sent for, or came of their own accord, to sell their lands, the island was the usual place appointed for their lodgment until the business was finished, as it was "not considered prudent that they should continue in the town, especially at night." When Lord Stirling disposed of his lands in America by lottery the drawing took place on the island, presided over by the Secretary of the Provinces and other notables from New Jersey and Pennsylvania. In the early days when ship building was one of the main supports of the town all the stone ballast for shipping and smaller vessels was gathered from the shore of the island.

William Burnett, who was Governor from 1720 to 1727, interested himself in making the island an attractive pleasure ground, and often spent whole days there himself for recreation from the cares of government. From the center of the island, where the ground is highest, a dozen walks were laid out, radiating in as many directions through the groves of giant chestnuts and pines that covered the island, providing vistas up and down the river and of the adjacent shores of New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

It is a pleasing reflection to contemplate that placid period when the plain people of Burlington found it a desirable diversion to cross the water and "take the air" drawn by no greater allurements than the simple sylvan charm of the wooded, wave-washed island.

Another favorite outing of Burlington folks in those early days was a stroll around and through the spacious grounds attached to the mansion built by John Tatham, in 1689, on the site now occupied by the mill of Severns Sons & Co., on the bank of the Assiscunk. In the *Historical Description of New Jersey* we find this house referred to as "the great and stately palace of Tatham."

Rev. John Talbot, first rector of St. Mary's Church, acquired the "Palace" for a Bishop's seat in 1712, and wrote to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, in London, that he had "the best house in America" for the purpose. The grounds, comprising fifteen acres, were laid out in an orchard with a delightful garden adjoining, in which were planted in great profusion and variety fruits, herbs, and flowers. Neglect to have the chimney swept occasioned a conflagration which entirely destroyed the building in 1748. John Tatham was a member of the Council of Proprietors and the first Recorder chosen by the township. He was commissioned Governor by Queen Anne, in 1690, but was rejected by the Assembly because he was a Jacobite. He died in 1701. The name, Tatham Street, remains today the only memorial of the man and his mansion.

This was the Burlington that a footsore and weary youth of seventeen years found when he trudged down the King's Highway into the town, with one silver dollar and his pockets stuffed with shirts and stockings, on a Saturday morning in October, 1723. He was journeying from Boston and hoped to find here a packet boat that would take him to his destination in Philadelphia. He bought some fresh gingerbread from an old woman who lived near the wharf, to eat on the water, but the regular boat had gone and no other was expected before Tuesday. He returned to the old woman much disturbed, seeking her advice. With

motherly kindness she gave him a good dinner and proposed that he lodge with her until the boat should come.

In the evening, as he was walking by the river side, a boat going toward Philadelphia with some passengers came along and took him in. There is a tradition that the kind old woman who gave him shelter lived in the little house on East Pearl Street, now the chapter house of the Daughters of the American Revolution. That young man returned six years later to spend three months in Burlington assisting his employer, Keimer, in printing the paper money for the colony, and to become the friend and guest of prominent people of the town; and a half century later, in Revolutionary days, when the name of Franklin was on the lips of the scientists, statesmen and common people of both France and America, he came frequently to Burlington to confer with, and advise the patriots of the town.

John Woolman, the Quaker mystic, the man of God and the friend of man, born but a few miles from Burlington near the Rancocas Creek, whose story of a life of unselfish devotion to the highest expression of altruism, *John Woolman's Journal*, has been found worthy of the first place in Dr. Charles W. Eliot's "five foot book shelf," came over from Mount Holly frequently to commune with Burlington Friends. While on one of his visits to Burlington, on February 13, 1757, he had a remarkable vision which he relates. He saw a bright spot of light in his room on a moonless, starless night. The spot was most radiant near its center, and he heard, twice repeated, this solemn announcement, "Certain Evidence of Divine Truth." No other vision or hallucination of John Woolman's is recorded. To him, more than to any other man, belongs the credit of abolishing slavery in New Jersey. He was the pioneer abolitionist of America.

Burlington having been settled by Friends they formed



the larger part of the community and for a time exercised a controlling influence in it. The quarter of a century following the founding of the town saw people of other religious persuasions coming in,—a few Presbyterians, a little group of Baptists, who formed a modest organization within twelve years after the arrival of the *Kent*, and many members of the Church of England whose numbers were increased by occasional converts from Quakerism after Queen Anne liberally endowed St. Mary's Church in 1703, and Rev. John Talbot became its Rector.

Mr. Talbot appears to have been eminently pious and devoted but as a strict Church of England man he was bound to look upon all dissenters with an unfavorable eye. He counted the Quakers as among them and disliked their presence in such numbers in the community. Their peaceful behavior irked him. Their insistence that baptism is not by water but of the Holy Ghost, that the Lord's Supper is also of a spiritual character, and their renunciation of the accepted observance of both these sacraments aroused Talbot's righteous wrath.

He denounced the Quakers unsparingly as people "who have denied the faith and are worse than infidels: they serve no God but Mammon and their own Bellies, and it is against their conscience to let the priest have anything either by law or gospel." In 1711 when the Wardens and Vestry of St. Mary's Church learned from the Rector of Christ Church, in Philadelphia, that the Pennsylvania Assembly had passed an act allowing affirmation to be made by all who, like the Quakers, were conscientiously scrupulous about taking the oath, they met and resolved, "that said Act is contrary to, and destructive of, the civil and religious liberty of the country's subjects and contrary to the laws of Great Britain."

The Wardens and Vestry sent over a remonstrance to

Queen Anne and the law, enacted by the Quaker Assembly of Pennsylvania in behalf of civil and religious liberty, was set aside by the Queen on the plea that it destroyed the very principle it was intended to establish. Friends were shortly after granted permission by Governor Robert Hunter to affirm instead of taking the usual oath.

It is interesting to note that these same Quakers who had come to Burlington seeking an asylum where they might enjoy civil and religious liberty, were buying and selling and holding slaves. With all their high professions (and this is written in a spirit of uncritical comment) some of them were many years in seeing the iniquity of dealing in their fellow men. This, like Talbot's intolerance, was the temper of the age in which they lived. The institution of slavery and much of the animosities of creeds have disappeared under the broadened view of man's relationship to man and the light of that full blaze of Gospel teaching which now overspreads the Christian world.

The demolition in 1926 of the ancient dwelling at the northwest corner of High and Broad Streets to provide a site for the new home of the Mechanics National Bank, recalls the "gentle and scholarly Smiths," who figured so largely in the ripening years of Burlington's history, and whose descendants, the Motts, Gummeres, Allinsons, Wetherills, Morrisises, Hydes and others, adorned the social life of the community in after years. The Burlington Smiths were descended from a substantial Quaker family, resident since the sixteenth century at Bramham, in the West Riding of Yorkshire.

The house at High and Broad Streets was built by Daniel Smith twelve years after his arrival in America, and seven years after his marriage to Mary Murfin. Its quaint architecture and the legend "D.S.M., 1703," set in the south gable in glazed brick to identity the date of its erection

and the original occupants of the house, remained for more than two centuries an interesting memorial of a dead and gone past. For several years Daniel Smith sat in the Assembly for the town of Burlington, and for a time he and his brother, Samuel, were its sole representatives. As an elder in the Society of Friends he was held in high estimation for many years before his death in 1742.

Mary Murfin, who became the wife of Daniel Smith, survived him but four years. She is an interesting character in the history of the Smith house. Her parents came from Eaton, in Nottinghamshire, England. When Mary arrived with them in the ship *Shield* she was but a child of three or four years. Having come to America at such a tender age she gained no other schooling than that which her mother could give her in their pioneer home among the Indians. It is said she became as proficient in the language of the red man as she did in her parents' English tongue. She was twenty-one years of age when she married Daniel Smith. They lived together in great harmony nearly fifty years and nine children were born to them. It is recorded that she was "a notable housewife and a distinguished minister in the Society of Friends."

There remains to Burlington one memorial of the Burlington Smiths. It is the house, No. 320 High Street, built in 1720 by Richard Smith, Jr., another of the family of Bramham Smiths, who came to America in 1694 and located at Burlington. Here he engaged extensively in commerce to the West Indies, owned his own vessels and built some of them at his own shipyard on the Green Bank. Upon the roof of the house, as it originally was constructed, was a lofty conning tower from which Smith, by the aid of a telescope, could sight his vessels returning from and departing upon their voyages.

Richard Smith was a hospitable man. Numerous trav-

elers, especially the Quaker ministers, many of them from abroad, were entertained by him. Distinguished visitors, among them Governor Jonathan Belcher, who resided with Smith for a short time after arriving in New Jersey to take up the reins of Colonial administration, were guests in this house.

Richard Smith was a prominent man in the province. He served as an Assemblyman for nearly twenty years and his contemporaries held him in great respect. He died in 1751. Among the children born to him were Samuel Smith, the historian, whose country seat, "Hickory Grove," where he wrote his famous *History of New Jersey*, is still standing; Richard Smith, Jr., who was a member of the Assembly in Revolutionary days, and John Smith, who succeeded to his father's business and resided in the High Street house after his marriage to Hannah Logan, daughter of the venerable statesman and scholar, John Logan, a Colonial Governor of Pennsylvania.

The story of John's courtship, recorded in his diary and to be found in that delightful volume, *The Courtship of Hannah Logan*, lends a flavor of romance to the history of this house. It is related that about the year 1753 the family of John Smith were taking their tea, *al fresco* fashion, in front of the homestead on High Street and invited a passing stranger to partake of their fare. In the conversation which ensued the stranger was induced to take up his residence here. Thus came to Burlington Isaac Collins, to set up his press here and succeed James Parker as printer to the Crown and, in Revolutionary days, to print here the early issues of *The New Jersey Gazette*, the first newspaper in the colony.

*The New Jersey Gazette* was published by authority of the Assembly to counteract the influence of the *Royal Gazette*, a Tory paper, published by Rivington, in New York.



The first copy of the *Gazette* was issued from the office in Burlington on Friday, December 5, 1777. In March, 1778, the office was removed to Trenton. The paper rendered splendid service to the patriot cause and was the vehicle for the writings of Governor Livingstone and other patriots who inspired and encouraged the efforts of their countrymen. The *Gazette* was regularly published until November 27, 1786, when it was discontinued for want of patronage. The Collins press was removed to New York in 1796. In 1808 Isaac Collins returned to Burlington, where he died March 21, 1817, in the house at the northeast corner of Broad and York Streets. This colonial printer was noted as the publisher of the first quarto Bible printed in America.

In *The Burlington Smiths*, a volume prepared in 1877 by R. Morris Smith, a descendant, we find the following interesting anecdote: "Governor Franklin having for sale his country place at Burlington, with its herd of one hundred deer, the bellman going about the streets of the town very early in the morning disturbed John Smith, whose health had become impaired so that sleep was a rare pleasure to him. Putting his head out of the window, John asked what was for sale. 'The Governor's Park,' was the reply. 'Put up your bell and go home, and I will buy the property at the owner's price,' exclaimed the Councillor, as he closed the window and tried to resume his disturbed slumbers." John Smith died March 16, 1771, in the forty-ninth year of his age.

It is but recently that historians have taken an interest in the early literature of the Colonies and particularly that which immediately preceded the Revolutionary War and followed in its wake. The world has now learned that the culture of Europe was reflected in the newly formed states by a few bright spirits. Among them were Rev. Jonathan Odell, rector of St. Mary's Church; Philip Frenau, Annis

Stockton and Elizabeth Lawrence, half-sister to Capt. James Lawrence. The early youth of Elizabeth Lawrence was passed in Burlington, where she pursued the study of Greek and Latin to the mild amusement of many people in the town.

The Lawrence home was the center of the intellectual group in the Burlington of that day, and Elizabeth Lawrence was its high priestess. Over her father's library table, as a girl, she conversed with Judge Lawrence's cultured guests and capped verses and exchanged repartee with the witty Dr. Odell. One of her biographers says, "She must have imbibed some of Odell's sarcasm for in later years her loquacious tongue was barbed with a wit almost Walpolian in its acrid cleverness." There are but few records of this remarkable woman's girlhood remaining but what we know serves to reflect the intellectual atmosphere of the Burlington of that period.

For many years after the establishment of St. Mary's Church in Burlington the Quakers and Episcopalians were the only religious denominations whose influence was felt in the town. Following the close of the Revolutionary War a wave of evangelism swept over the colonies. George Whitfield visited Burlington and stirred a vast crowd with his eloquence in front of the Court House. Capt. Charles T. Webb, an English evangelist, preached in Burlington the first Methodist sermon heard in West Jersey, and the Methodists in 1788 acquired a little frame meeting house, painted red, which stood on the rear of the lot now occupied by their present edifice.

In 1799 the Baptists were meeting in their first permanent place of worship, an old frame building on the present "Baptist Corner" which had been abandoned in 1792 by the Friends after they built their last meeting house on High Street.

Until 1836 there was no organized society of Presbyterians in the city. Burlington having been founded by members of the Society of Friends they prevailed in the community for a long time. Then members of the Church of England came in and represented a considerable part of the townspeople. There were but few Presbyterians. However a little group of people of that faith organized a church with nine members on the evening of July 7, 1836, and in August called as pastor Dr. Courtlandt Van Rensselaer, whose memory is still precious in Burlington.

The rise and growth of these denominational bodies brought about a marked change in the religious and social atmosphere of Burlington. While the quiet influence of Quakerism remained a restraining moral undercurrent in the community, and the gentility of its foremost families a criterion of social standing, there came with the Church of England people and the rise of other evangelical denominations more attractive forms of worship, and a leavening of the community life by the introduction of a group of families having broader views of social customs and recreations.

The sober minded Friends in seeking entertainment had confined themselves to lectures upon serious and intellectual subjects, held in the assembly rooms of private academies established early in the town. These continued to have their appeal, for Burlington remained an intellectual community, but card playing, dancing, music, and the reading of plays, romances and novels, debarred by the "sumptuary rules" of Quakerism as worldly amusements, became added diversions and denoted the changing life of Burlington just as distinctly as did the fashionable attire of the liberal minded people who indulged in them.

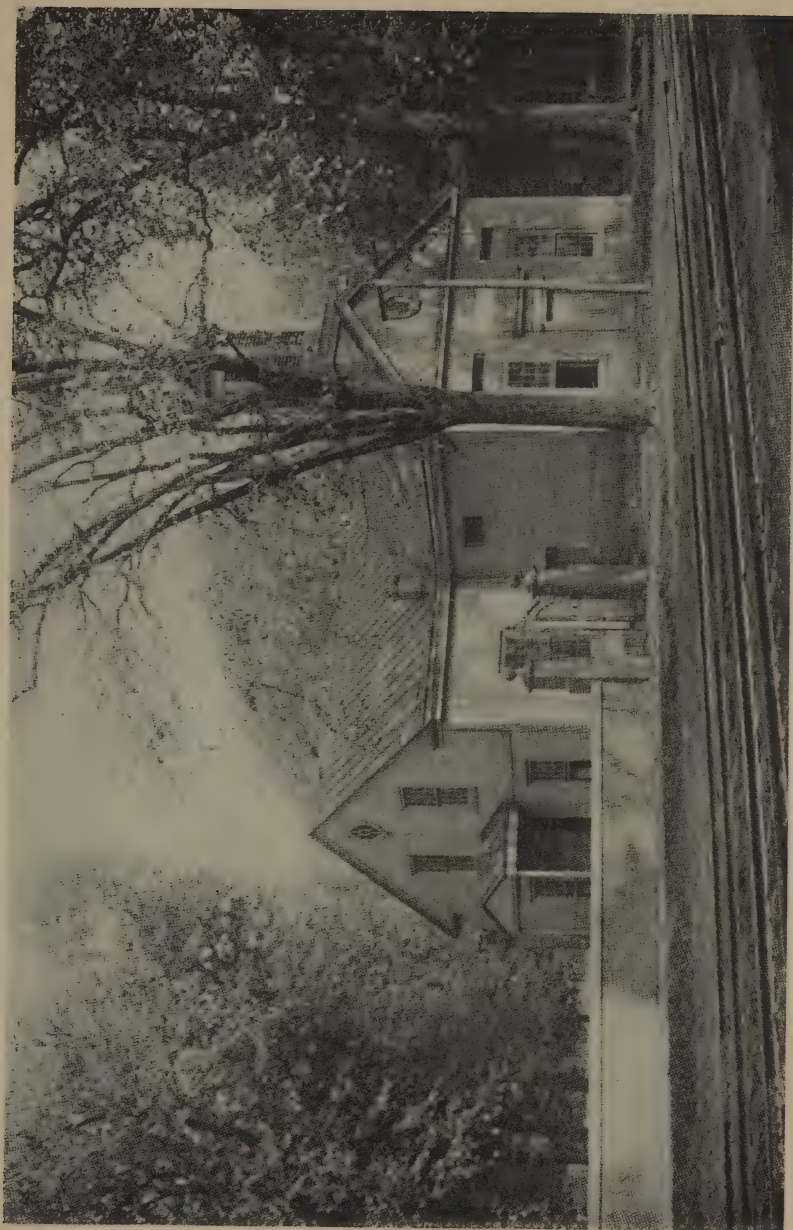
The dancing master became a periodical visitor to the town. When the Burlington Academy was built in 1795, on the West Broad Street lot now occupied by the new St.

Mary's Church, the auditorium on the second floor was used as a Community Hall. The dancing master taught his classes here and served a meagre lemonade after the lesson. Here, too, the assemblies were held and beneath the chaste gleam of many tallow candles the beauty, fashion and gallantry of Burlington engaged in the graceful movements of the decorous dances of that day.

The years that followed form a most interesting phase, perhaps the most picturesque period, in the changing life of Burlington. With a background of early Quaker dominance, a foreground of the fashionable life of the later day, the many schools and private academies, the quaint old churches, one of them St. Mary's, the seat of Episcopal authority in America, whose rector at times moulded the manners and morals and often the politics of the town and was the distinguishing figure on all public occasions, Burlington presented the archiepiscopal aspect of a cathedral city in an unusual Quaker setting.

The old church of St. Mary's stood parallel with Broad Street and a wide area of unoccupied land surrounded the church yard. The chancel was at the east end and only one door, at the west end, opened to the one long narrow aisle on each side of which were the old-fashioned high-backed pews. There was a narrow gallery at the west end, over the door, in the center of which and projecting from the wall in the form of a half-circle, was the organ gallery, enclosing a small but sweet-toned organ. On each side of the organ were pews and seats for the Sunday School. The Governor's pew, large and square, was in the center of the church and was surmounted by a canopy. Rich crimson damask hangings, the gift of Governor William Franklin's wife, adorned the pulpit, reading desk and Communion table. The open belfry in which hung the time-honored old





OLD ST. MARYS CHURCH

Founded in 1702; erected in 1703.



bell, was then on the west end of the church, and for generations was the only bell in the town.

In those early days there was no announcement of services. The bell regulated them. If the bell did not ring at eight o'clock on the morning of Sunday there was no service. If it did not ring while the people were leaving the church after morning service there was no evening service. In the winter the church was warmed by two old-fashioned "ten plate" stoves for wood, one at each end of the building, with the pipe protruding through windows, and from which early on Sunday morning dense volumes of smoke might be seen issuing.

At the hour of the tolling of "the people's bell," as it was called, at twenty minutes past ten, the old sexton might be seen in cold weather hurrying to and from the stoves to the pews with little square boxes with holes pierced at the top and containing hot ashes and live coals to warm the feet of dainty ladies. Then he ascends to the gallery, takes hold of the bell rope and fixes his eye on the Rectory. The organist perches herself upon the high organ stool, the boy is at the bellows, and all await the coming of the Rector. He is first seen issuing from the Rectory. When he is opposite the old Academy the children from the inter-denominational Sunday School, held in that building on Sunday mornings, come rushing out. The Rector has a smile for each teacher, puts his hand upon the head and blesses all the children within reach; but on the boys and girls go rushing up the one narrow uncarpeted gallery stairway with much noise and barely in time to be seated before the Rector comes. Then the sexton begins the last, or "minister's bell."

On Christmas Eve the bell would be rung at ten o'clock and at intervals all night long and the parishioners would send to the vestry room cider, apples, doughnuts and mince

pies for the refreshment of the ringers. The manner of dressing the church for Christmas was unique. In holes bored in the tops of the pew backs, about two feet apart, the sexton would place first a branch of laurel, then of spruce, and then of box, and the congregation appeared to be sitting in and surrounded by a miniature forest. In the backs of every alternate pew, the sexton stuck little tin candlesticks in which he put tallow candles. These were greatly in the way and gave concern to the worshippers. It is related that on a certain Christmas a woman tossing her head about during the service managed to get her hair ablaze.

Over the hangings of the pulpit and reading desk, and twined around the chancel rails were wreaths of ground or running pine, and the two beautiful chandeliers of cut glass, with pendant drops, and a double row of wax candles, were also draped with wreaths of running pine. The mellow glow of candle light was also shed upon the pulpit and reading desk from branches holding wax candles. On Christmas day there was both morning and evening service and it was the only occasion when the church was open at night throughout the year.

Until a church of their own was established in Burlington the Presbyterians of the town mingled with Churchmen in the service at St. Mary's. Among them were the Boudinot family, and the old clerk who announced the Psalms and hymns, and led the singing with a voice far from musical, was a worthy Scotch Presbyterian named Thomas Aikman, a cabinet maker. He was a positive character, with the temper and purpose of his Covenanter ancestors. One Sunday when Aikman gave out the Psalms before the Ante-Communion service the Rector, Dr. Wharton, rose in the chancel and said, "Mr. Aikman, that is not the Psalm I gave you." "Yes, but it is, Doctor." "No, it is not." "Yes, but it is, Dr. Wharton. It is right. I have it here in your own



handwrite," and he held up a paper. "O, well, have it your own way, have it your own way," the Rector responded, "Sing anything you like," and the high-backed pews hid the smiles of the worshippers.

The old clerk was long remembered for his loud response in the Te Deum, "*Wouchsafe*, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin." One Sunday morning while the Litany was being said, and just where it changes from depression to the supplication, "We sinners do beseech Thee, to hear us O Lord God; and that it may please Thee to rule and govern Thy Holy Church Universal in the right way," he happened to glance absent-mindedly at his notebook, and the congregation was startled and electrified by the old clerk's sonorous response, "Good Lord, deliver us!"

The interdenominational Sunday School, held in the auditorium of the old Academy building, began its sessions in the spring of 1816. Harmony prevailed for nine years. Then came the break. It was occasioned by an order that all children attending the Union Sunday School must attend the morning service in St. Mary's Church at the close of the session of the school. The teachers and parents of Baptist and Methodist persuasion felt that this ruling was unfair and arbitrary. On a certain Sunday morning in May, 1825, Miss Bertha Ellis, a Baptist teacher, brought her group of Baptist children out of the Sunday School at the close of the session, marched them up Broad Street to the Baptist Church, and with the assistance of Sarah B. Allen organized the first Sunday School of the First Baptist Church of Burlington. The example of the Baptists was followed soon after by the Methodists.

High Street was still a tree shaded, unpaved highway extending but a short distance beyond Broad Street, a century and a half after the founding of the settlement. The Bloomfield mansion (now the residence of James H. Birch)

stood almost in the suburbs. The only houses south of it were the two old English brick dwellings (since stuccoed), the birthplaces of James Fenimore Cooper and Capt. James Lawrence. Beyond them was a wilderness.

From Broad Street to the river substantial dwellings, with wide porches, or "stoops," protected by pent houses projecting between the first and second stories, stood on High Street in the midst of spacious gardens famous for their products and adorned with box-lined walks and well kept lawns. On West Broad Street, from the recently demolished dwelling built by Daniel Smith in 1703, at the corner of High and Broad Streets, to the Bradford mansion on the north side, and from the Blue Anchor Inn (now the Metropolitan Inn) to the present Washington Avenue on the south side, and on the sloping sward of the Green Bank, surrounded by magnificent trees stood a few old colonial homesteads whose occupants represented a refinement and dignity which is a precious tradition of the time when such names as Bloomfield, Boudinot, McIlvaine, Coxe, Wallace, Smith, Kinsey, Grellet, Griscom, Morris and others adorned the social life of Burlington and linked her name with state and national history.

The McIlvaines were on Broad Street not far from the Boudinots; Elisha Chauncey was living where the old Burlington College stood, now a part of the Devlin Company plant; Andrew Allen, the accomplished son of Chief Justice Allen, and at one time British Consul at Boston, lived in the house where St. Mary's Hall was first established; Barbarroux and Benoist, two Frenchmen of family and fortune, lived on the bank; nearby, at the corner of Wood Street and Delaware Avenue, Horace Binney had his estate; the Smiths and Morrisises and Hoskinses were on High Street below Union Street. Here fashion reigned. Guests arrived in sedan chairs and ponderous family chariots, the

ladies wearing towering head dresses, stomachers and flowing sleeves, the gentlemen with powdered hair and ruffles, and carrying snuff boxes and canes.

Particular interest is centered in the Bradford homestead, built in 1798 by Elias Boudinot, President of the Continental Congress, whose signing of the treaty of peace with Great Britain automatically made him the first President of the United States. It was the most imposing residence in Burlington at the time. In the library stood a rare and unique work of art, a marble mantel six feet wide and four feet high. On the fascia, under the shelf, there were ten figures carved in *bas relief* and each about six inches in height, representing Apollo and the Muses. On both corners, also in relief, were medallion portraits of Julius and Augustus Cæsar. Other mythological figures were carved on the pedestals. There is a tradition that the mantel was presented by General Lafayette to Mr. Boudinot, who, when erecting his mansion, placed it in his library with his statuary and other works of art. When the Bradford house was remodeled and converted into two dwellings, many years ago, this interesting historic relic was purchased by a resident of Philadelphia.

When Elias Boudinot retired to Burlington in 1805 to spend his remaining days he was accompanied by his daughter Susan, the widow of William Bradford, Washington's first Attorney General. Susan Bradford's friends and intimates were the Washingtons, the Hamiltons and that group of noble dames comprising the famous Washington circle, made up of such women as Mrs. Carroll, Mrs. Madison, Mrs. Pinckney, Mrs. Green and Mrs. Rush.

After her father's death, in 1821, Susan Bradford preserved the formalities which had been observed by him during his official career, and when he entertained distinguished members of the administration group who came to

Burlington seeking his counsel. Well into the nineteenth century she would go to St. Mary's Church in her sedan chair, and on state occasions would ride out in the ancient yellow family chariot with its crimson curtains, and two footmen behind in lace and powder.

She was visited in Burlington often by the friend of her youth, the widow of her husband's distinguished friend in the cabinet, Mrs. Alexander Hamilton. The family chariot always met Mrs. Hamilton on her arrival and she was driven in old-fashioned splendor to the Bradford mansion. These two stately, aged dames might be seen on summer days and evenings strolling along the box-lined walks beneath the noble trees in the park-like garden, living over again in an interchange of memories the traditions of happier times. Susan Bradford died November 30, 1854, in her ninetieth year.

Situated on the chief thoroughfare between New York and Philadelphia (the old King's Highway) many distinguished visitors were entertained in Burlington. Prominent ministers of the Society of Friends in earlier days, and Colonial Governors who communed at St. Mary's Church, were frequent visitors. Churchmen of prominence came here to attend conferences, and in that later period, which may best be described as Burlington's Golden Age, "Riverside," the Episcopal residence, with the commanding figure of the Rector-Bishop, George W. Doane, was filled at all times with distinguished guests from home and abroad.

With its salubrity, its air of quiet charm, its rare social atmosphere, its quaint old hostelries and hospitable homes, Burlington became a summer resort before 1812; and in later years, particularly for families whose daughters and sons were pupils at St. Mary's Hall and Burlington College. The mountain and seaside resorts were then undreamed of.

Strange as it may seem, although other communities





Birthplace of JAMES FENIMORE COOPER  
457 High Street

Birthplace of CAPTAIN JAMES LAWRENCE  
459 High Street



began early to change in appearance and customs, Burlington retained its colonial aspect and atmosphere well into the Nineteenth Century. Such scenes as have been here described were witnessed in the town as late as 1850. For many years later Burlington remained archaic in appearance. With its quaint old houses and red brick pavements, it retained more nearly than any community of Revolutionary times the diffused light of earlier days.

Much of this has been lost. Nearly all the ancient landmarks have given way to the march of improvement within the last generation. The Friends Meeting House and the twin sycamores in its rear, old St. Mary's Church, the birth places of Lawrence and Cooper, the little house where Franklin bought his gingerbread, the ancient tree on the river bank and the river itself, remain enshrined with memories of a past of which Burlington's people should be proud.



### In Revolutionary Days

FOR a hundred years after the settlement of Burlington war had not approached her quiet borders. Its alarums had sounded only in regions remote from her. So her inhabitants were indeed a peaceful and peace-loving people. The man in a uniform was regarded as a rough, roystering, swash-buckling sort of fellow whom very few people admired and a great many did not.

He was now about to become a familiar figure in the community. In 1765 the Stamp Act deprived the colonists of essential rights as subjects of the British Crown. Other measures of the British Parliament and the Ministry affected the liberties of the colonies. Disapproval of the course of the Mother Country grew into resentment until, fired by acts of hostility in Massachusetts, it culminated in a determination to resist further encroachments by an appeal to arms.

The response to this sentiment in Burlington was far from unanimous. There were conflicting views among her people concerning the meaning of patriotism and public duty. The numerous Society of Friends thought it proper to support the existing order of government and counseled non-resistance and peace. The town was full of Tories too, Church of England people. Such prominent citizens as Judge John Lawrence, father of Capt. James Lawrence, Rev. Jonathan Odell, rector of St. Mary's Church, and many others believed that patriotism meant loyalty to the Crown.

There was a martial spirit prevailing in the community notwithstanding the sentiment of the Friends and the attitude of the Tories. Then came the battle of Lexington and Boston was invested by General Artemus Ward and the



troops of Massachusetts. Congress assumed the war begun in New England as a national responsibility and appointed Washington to the supreme command. If the ardor of the Patriots in Burlington needed access it was gained when Washington passed over the Delaware from Philadelphia, where Congress was in session, and proceeded northward through Burlington and Bordentown, in June 1775, on his way to the seat of war to begin the siege of Boston. The people of Burlington greeted Washington with mingled enthusiasm and curiosity—enthusiasm on the part of the Patriots and curiosity by the Tories, for Washington was yet to prove that he possessed the qualities of a leader of men which afterward commanded universal admiration.

New Jersey was in a state of ferment brought about by partisan strife between citizens of divergent sympathies. Suppression of all government by the Crown and the adoption of a representative form of government by each colony was recommended by the Continental Congress on May 10, 1776. Two weeks later the Provincial Assembly of New Jersey appointed a committee to draft a new constitution.

In marked contrast with his illustrious father, Benjamin Franklin, William Franklin, the Royal Governor of New Jersey, whose residence was in Burlington, was not in sympathy with the colonies. He believed it to be his duty to support his sovereign. He doubted the ability of the colonies to successfully resist Great Britain, and he may have been dazzled by dreams of power and preferment under her supremacy. To strengthen the cause of the Tories and discomfit the Patriots, Franklin summoned the House of Assembly in June, 1776, with the purpose of coercing it into a declaration of allegiance to Great Britain. In this crisis the attitude of the member from Burlington, Richard Smith, was equivocal.

The Assembly denounced Governor Franklin as a trai-

tor. By order of the Continental Congress he was deposed and arrested. A diary kept by an eccentric Burlington character, James Craft, who lived at the time in the house which stood at 350 High Street, makes the following mention of the seizure of the Tory Governor:

"1776, 5mo, 20—To the Court House in this order—18 armed men (coach) V. Bullen, B. Reed."

"1776, 5mo, 26—He sett off for Hartford in Connecticut, guarded by 23 men to Prince Town, and so on."

Franklin was held a prisoner in Hartford, in the house of Captain Grant, until 1778, when he was exchanged, went to England, and lived there under royal patronage until his death in 1813, at the age of eighty-two.

July 4, 1776, is illustrious in the annals of America, but that month of that year holds a date which looms large in the history of Burlington. On July 2, 1776, the Constitutional Convention met in Burlington to consider the report of the committee appointed in May to draft a new constitution. On that day the constitution of 1776, the Magna Charta of New Jersey, a virtual declaration of independence, was adopted in Burlington two days before the National Declaration of Independence was proclaimed in Philadelphia!

An unrecorded legend in connection with this event recites that a group of the men who framed this constitution, gifted beyond their fellows with political wisdom and the foresight of patriotic prophecy, gathered beneath the twin sycamores which still stand in the rear of the Friends Meeting House, and gravely agreed that a union of the colonies should be planned to provide the solution and safeguard of the experiment in self-government they were making in America.

The Patriots of the town rose to the occasion. They assisted in forming a Committee of Observation, they were

represented in the Continental Congress, the Committee of Correspondence, the Committee of Safety, and various other organizations incident to the Revolution. They organized the "Minute Men" to be held in readiness to march to any place where assistance might be required for the defense of New Jersey or a neighboring colony. Burlington became a prominent military post and remained so during the war.

Recruiting of the Burlington unit for New Jersey's quota of the Militia, and enlistments in the Continental army, began at once. Despite the attitude of the Society of Friends towards resistance to authority and the bearing of arms, there were some Burlington Quakers in the ranks and, later on, others gave aid and comfort to the enemy as opportunity offered, and still others were secretly furnishing supplies to Patriot troops. The records of the Monthly Meeting of the Friends bear many references to such derelictions. Burlington began to take on a new and strange aspect. The soldier was in her midst. First her own militiamen, then the Hessians, then the Continentals and militiamen, then British grenadiers, then her own men again. At times these troops were quartered on the people of the town, who were sorely puzzled how to provide for them.

One must turn to personal records of that period to learn the intimate details of these incidents and to sense the atmosphere of the town in that time of trial. History says nothing about it. This is particularly true of the invasion of Burlington by the Hessians in December, 1776, two weeks before the Battle of Trenton. James Craft's old diary makes this note of the event:

"1776, 12 mo., 11.—Sad work this day. The Hessians came. The town fired on by the guns from the gondolas. Many people much troubled: tho' nobody hurt, altho' large and small shot was fired plenty, and in every direction.—

A vast body of inhabitants left the Town—Scattered about the neighborhood.” In an entry under date of December 16 he wrote: “Dull times—some fighting, a great deal of ill will amongst neighbors.”

An authentic and picturesque record, preserved to us in the diary of Margaret Hill Morris, describes many of the happenings in Burlington during the stormy days of the Revolution. Mrs. Morris lived on the river bank in the former home of Governor Franklin, which was known in later days as the “Chauncey House.” It was a landmark in Burlington until it was demolished in 1873 to prepare a site for the handsome residence of C. Ross Grubb.

She tells how for some days before the Hessians came the people of the town were disturbed by conflicting rumors of the approach of English forces; that an English fleet was in the river and hourly expected to arrive; that there were designs to fire the town; that the British army was advancing towards Burlington; how the inhabitants were going in hosts to the country. “So many of our neighbors gone and others going,” she writes, “makes our little bank (the Green Bank) look lonesome.”

Under date of December 11, 1776, she tells of a party of about sixty men entering the town and marching down the main street and, as they passed along “they told our doctor (Doctor Odell) and some other persons in the town that a large number of Hessians were advancing and would be in town in less than an hour. This party were riflemen who had crossed the river somewhere in the neighborhood of Bordentown to reconnoitre, and meeting with a superior number of Hessians were retiring and took Burlington on their way back.”

The riflemen were barely gone when the Hessians appeared. Count Donop, or De Nope, the name by which Margaret Morris refers to him in her diary, marched into



Burlington at the head of four hundred troops who stacked their arms out Federal Street and began cooking their dinners. A number of American war galleys, or gun boats, had been lying in the river before the town for two days. The people of the town were alarmed. An engagement between the fleet and the Hessians meant damage to the town and possible loss of life.

Judge John Lawrence, William Dilwyn, a member of the Society of Friends, and a young man named Hawlings, went out to meet Donop and treat with him for the safety of the town. The Americans commanding the gondola fleet had been informed of this intention and approved of it. Rev. Jonathan Odell, who spoke French and hoped to find the Hessian commander acquainted with the language of diplomacy, went along as interpreter.

Count Donop appears to have been very much of a gentleman. He received the delegation courteously and pledged his honor that nothing would be done to disturb or endanger the people if they would remain quiet and furnish him with quarters and refreshment. Upon hearing this, Captain Moore, the gondola commander, agreed that it would be wrong to fire on the town. He went as messenger down to Philadelphia to inform the Commodore of this compact. Donop, with some of his officers, came into the town on invitation of Judge Lawrence and dined with him while waiting for the Commodore's answer. But circumstances were operating against the preservation of peace in Burlington.

Before Captain Moore, the messenger, got down to Philadelphia information had reached the Commodore that the Hessians were in Burlington and four war galleys had been dispatched by him up the river with instructions to fire upon the town. Captain Moore met the galleys on his way and tried to hail them but a high wind made him unheard

or misunderstood. When the four war galleys arrived at Burlington Judge Lawrence and his party went to the wharf and waved a hat, the signal agreed upon with Captain Moore. The men on the war galleys knew nothing of the signal. Their answer was a shot from a swivel gun. Lawrence again waved his hat and was answered by an eighteen pound shot.

This was regarded as an act of treachery, an unprovoked attack. Donop expressed regret that he should be the occasion of damage or distress to the inhabitants. He directed sentinels to view and report to him what they saw. The galley men seeing them here and there at different times thought the town was full of Hessians and kept up a continuous cannonade in different directions until dark, when they dropped a little way down the river. That is the story as we glean it from the diary of Margaret Morris.

The town was terror stricken. People sought safety in cellars. The balls crashed through the apple trees growing on the grounds where St. Mary's Church now stands; one tore through the gable of the hotel at Delaware Avenue and High Street, now occupied by Clifford S. Price; another through the gable of the building at the northeast corner of High and East Union Streets, now the Alexander delicatessen, occupied then, and for many years afterwards as a hotel; another through the rear of the present residence of Samuel W. Jones, at the northeast corner of Broad and York Streets, once the home of Isaac Collins, the colonial printer. Many of these iron messengers were turned up in later years in the high ground near the Fountain Woods, and also in the town, the latest a four-pound shot found under the sidewalk of 350 High Street, in 1926, occupied during the Revolution by James Craft, the diarist.

The Hessians were no less disturbed than the citizens. They left their camp and took shelter in the few houses on

Federal Street. Among others they crowded into the house occupied by Frederick Lowden who was at work some miles from home. The report of the cannon brought him home in a hurry. Upon entering his house Lowden found it filled with Hessians. He was a man of unusual size, great strength and equal courage. The Hessians were told to leave. They paid no attention to Lowden's order. He collared a pair of them and put them into the street. He continued ordering and when they were slow to obey he would collar another pair and throw them out until the house was cleared of the intruding Hessians.

Count Donop soon shifted his camp and retreated towards Mount Holly. The Americans then landed squads of men to search for Tories. Suspected persons were kept in constant alarm and many fled the town for safety. Prominent among these were Judge John Lawrence and Rev. Jonathan Odell.

The case of Dr. Odell is interesting. He had been a surgeon in the British army. As a clergyman of the Church of England he had taken the oath of supremacy. He intended to remain strictly neutral. Odell was a poet, one of the most gifted versifiers of his time. His misuse of this talent and his expression of private sentiment revealed by some intercepted correspondence, placed him in the position of, "a person suspected of being inimical to American liberty."

A number of British officers (captured at St. John's and Chamblly by General Montgomery, and held prisoners in Burlington) celebrated the King's birthday with a picnic on Burlington Island on June 4, 1776. An ode in honor of the day, written by Dr. Odell, was sung, dinner was served under the trees and a band of music enlivened the occasion. James Craft in his diary says, "that had liked to have made a rumpus." The following July Odell was placed on

parole "on the east side of Delaware River within a circle of eight miles from the Court House in the city of Burlington." With the coming of the Hessians and the excitement occasioned thereby the feelings of the Patriots against all Tories became intense and Dr. Odell seems to have been a particular object of their pursuit.

Margaret Morris relates his experience at this time. She writes: "Several of our friends called to see us, amongst the number was one (Dr. Odell) esteemed by the whole family and very intimate in it, but the spirit of the devil continued to rage through the town in the shape of Tory hunters. A message was delivered to our intimate friend informing him a party of armed men were in search of him, and he returned to a place of safety." The "place of safety," in which Odell found concealment was a secret chamber, called the "Auger Hole," in the rear of the upper floor of the Morris home, the old mansion on the river bank.

Margaret's son, John, took his spy glass and climbed to the roof of Col. Coxe's neighboring mill to satisfy his curiosity concerning a report that thousands of troops were coming to Burlington and were already at Gallows Hill. His brother, Richard, then took the glass and resting it in a tree scanned the fleet of war galleys in the river. These movements of the boys were observed by the Americans. A boat was manned and put to shore. Soon there came a rude knocking at Margaret's door.

"I was a little fluttered," she writes, "and kept locking and unlocking that I might get my ruffled face a little composed; at last I opened the door and half a dozen men, all armed, demanded the key to the empty house. I asked them what they wanted there; they said, 'to search for a d——d Tory who had been spying on them from the mill.' The name of Tory, so near to my own house, seriously alarmed me, for a poor refugee, dignified by that name, had



claimed the shelter of my roof and was at the time concealed, like a thief, in the Auger Hole.

"I rang the bell violently, the signal agreed on if they came to search, and when I thought he had crept into the hole, I put on a very simple look and cried out, 'Bless me, I hope you are not Hessians.' 'Do we look like Hessians?' asked one of them rudely. 'Indeed I don't know.' 'Did you ever see a Hessian?' 'No, never in my life, but they are men, and you are men, and may be Hessians for anything I know, but I'll go with you into Col. Coxe's house, though indeed it was my son at the mill; he is but a boy and meant no harm; he wanted to see the troops.'"

Margaret marched at the head of them and opened the door for them. They searched every corner of the Coxe house but of course found no Tory there, and could not conjecture where he might be hidden. They returned, the Tory hunters greatly disappointed, and Margaret Morris pleased to think her house was not suspected although there was sufficient cause for it.

In the evening, when the Tory hunters returned to the gunboats, Margaret Morris accompanied Odell to town and placed him in other lodgings. He succeeded in escaping from Burlington, found refuge in New York and closed his career in government service in the Province of New Brunswick. Judge Lawrence likewise became a refugee and died in exile in Canada. There are traditions that Margaret Morris found frequent and timely use for the secret chamber. One of these tales relates to the concealment of six wounded British soldiers, but the diary makes no mention of it.

For the next two months, or until after the battle of Monmouth, the town was in the highway of moving bodies of troops. The day following the battle of Trenton three thousand Pennsylvania militiamen, and other troops who

had crossed the Delaware with artillery and baggage to join Washington, marched into town and quartered themselves on the people. Two days later the town was required to take care of another large body of troops and there was difficulty in finding enough bread to supply them and firewood to keep them warm. A day later the town became a hospital. Wounded and sick soldiers, the aftermath of the battle of Trenton, were brought into Burlington and lodged in the Court House and private residences.

The battle of Princeton followed and on January 3, 1777, nearly a thousand soldiers came straggling into town in great confusion with baggage and some cannon and were quartered on the people. Margaret Morris relates that "upon being questioned closely some of them confessed they had run away frightened by the heavy firing." Within two weeks the town had to take other soldiers returning to camp. Many prisoners, captured during Washington's campaign in New Jersey, were brought to Burlington and the Court House was filled with them until they were discharged and returned home.

The town continued to suffer annoyance from marauding parties of the enemy during the latter part of 1777, and the early part of 1778 while the British occupied Philadelphia. It was during this period, on May 8, 1778, that Burlington was bombarded again, this time by a fleet of British war boats returning from an attack on Bordentown. The shots were fired in retaliation for an attack by militiamen after the fleet had passed Burlington in the morning. It was Sunday afternoon when the fleet returned from Bordentown. The river bank was crowded with curious citizens, among them a number of women and children, who had gathered to view the passing of the British war vessels.

The town was unaware that the only opposition encountered by the fleet had begun at Burlington, and since they

had passed peaceably in the morning there was no apprehension of danger on their return. Nettled by the sniping of the militiamen from Burlington, Captain Henry, the commander, decided to teach the town a lesson. A large sloop, with a cannon in the bow, approached the wharf. An officer on the quarter-deck waved his hat and announced loudly: "We are about to fire. Women and children must leave the bank."

The startled spectators stampeded at once. Some took shelter behind neighboring buildings, others scurried to their homes. The first shot struck Adam Sheppard's stable, which stood just below the wharf. A number of men were huddled behind it, but escaped injury. The sloop continued firing until she passed the town, but a head wind made frequent tacking necessary and interfered with the effectiveness of the bombardment. There is no record that any person was injured. Burlington witnessed no further warlike demonstrations but the county suffered from straggling soldiers and camp followers, and from lawlessness—the aftermath of every war in its area of conflict—which prevailed until long after peace was declared in November, 1782. Burlington city did not escape its ruthlessness.

Some idea of the disturbed state of the town may be gained from the following paragraph in Dr. Hill's *History of the Church in Burlington*: "In 1779 it is stated that there has been a total cessation of public worship in the Provinces of New Jersey and Pennsylvania and almost every missionary driven out." The Friends Meeting House in Burlington was seized as a military barracks. Members of the Meeting were not only deprived of the privilege of worshipping at home but marauding British troops on the highways made a journey to Philadelphia unsafe, and travelers were not permitted to enter that city when they succeeded in arriving there.

Much had happened since that day in June, 1775, when General Washington passed through Burlington on his way to the siege of Boston. The War of the Revolution had been fought, the British Parliament had ordered the cessation of hostilities against America, and the foundation of a great nation had been laid, when Washington made his second visit to Burlington, on March 23, 1782. A week later, on the 30th, Baron Steuben honored Burlington with his presence. The purpose of these visits, and the length of time Washington and Steuben remained in Burlington, is unknown. The only available record of these events is found in the quaint chronicle of "Daily Occurrences," kept by James Craft, who died in Burlington in 1808, at the age of sixty-five. The manuscript is still preserved by his descendants.

Life moved slowly in Burlington in the years immediately following the Revolution. The wealthier class of Patriot sympathizers had given much and a great part of the possessions of the non-sympathizers had been confiscated by the government. Nearly every Quaker family in the town had suffered in that way. Property values too, had shrunk.

At the same time prices for all the necessities of life were most extravagant. Elias Boudinot wrote in 1779-80 that in Philadelphia "beef was 15 s., lb., butter, 30 s., lb., \$8.00 was the cost of an earthen quart mug, and the gauze for fashionable ladies' caps cost \$3.00 per yard, yet I never saw so much gaiety in dress in this city before. Common dress caps for the ladies take 1½ yards of gauze! Mutton was 10 s., lb., a pair of woman's shoes \$25.00 and \$30.00. Boots \$75.00."

Those who suffered most seriously were the people without property, the many respectable, industrious poor who had been able to maintain themselves in comparative



comfort in time of peace, and to whom the war had meant loss of employment and near beggary.

It was to relieve this distressful condition in the community that the Friendly Institution was organized on the evening of December 24, 1796. For one hundred and thirty years this worthy organization has continued unostentatiously to smooth the pathway of life for the worthy poor of Burlington.



## Transportation's Transforming Touch

THE roads leading out of Burlington, enabling communication with other settlements in the province in earliest times, were very little more than foot-paths through the forest. They afforded passage only to horsemen and pedestrians, and were followed by strangers only with the aid of guides.

One of the earliest of these, at first an old Indian trail, was the pathway through the wilderness from the Dutch settlement at Manhattan to Virginia. It crossed the Delaware near Jegou's tavern on Leasey Point. The first road for vehicular travel in Burlington County was the present little used Schuyler Ferry Road. It joins the River Road about two miles above Burlington and was opened to provide access to the river ferry established there by Aarent Schuyler.

The Proprietors desired to attract trade to their seat of government in Burlington and in July, 1683, petitioned Governor Lawrie that a convenient road be constructed between Burlington and Perth Amboy, "for the entertaining of a land conveyance that way." This was done the following year, and a ferry was established between Amboy and New York. When this road was extended to Fenwick's colony at Salem it was the principal means of communication between the settlements of East and West Jersey.

At first express wagons were run to carry produce and merchandise. In 1726 a stage started from Redford's Ferry opposite Perth Amboy for Burlington, and from here passengers and merchandise were taken by packet boat to Philadelphia. Burlington had its own enterprises of this character. In Andrew Bradford's *Philadelphia Mercury* of March, 1732-33, we find the following advertisement re-

specting transportation service set up here: "This is to give notice unto gentlemen, Merchants, Tradesmen, Travellers and others, that Solomon Smith and Thomas Moore, of Burlington, Keepeth two stage wagons, intending to go from Burlington to Amboy, and back from Amboy to Burlington again, Once a week or oftener, if that Business presents."

In 1729 the mails, carried on horseback, passed once a week in summer and once a fortnight in winter between New York and Philadelphia, leaving letters at Burlington and Perth Amboy. This continued for twenty-five years until Benjamin Franklin became superintendent of the Post Office, when carriers passed over the road three times a week. The first post office in Burlington was established April 1, 1798, with Thomas Douglass as postmaster.

Improvement came, too, in transportation. Opposition stage lines were set up. Joseph Borden, the founder of Bordentown, had put a line of stages on the road from Redford's Ferry to Crosswick's bridge and thence, "if landing permits," to Burlington. The competition became keen. Joseph Borden's advertisement of his "stage waggon," in the *Philadelphia Mercury*, under date of November 11, 1756, is evidence of this rivalry between the opposition lines. Part of the advertisement reads: "As to the owners of the Burlington stage boasting of their advantage being superior to mine, I shall not take the trouble to make reply to, because the publick by this time is the best judges of my stages and their advantages, only shall just note the last clause of their advertisement, that is, they say we are one tide more upon the water than they are, which, in fact, is saying we are always two tides upon our passage. Well done, brother adventurers, that is a large one!"

In the *Pennsylvania Gazette* of July, 1751, the following interesting advertisement is found: "There will be a stage

boat that will attend every Tuesday at the Crooked Billet wharff in Philadelphia, and proceed the same day up to Burlington, wind and weather permitting; and on Wednesday morning a stage waggon, with a good awning, Kept by Fretwell Wright, at the Blue Anchor in Burlington, John Preedmore at Cranberry, and James Wilson at Amboy ferry, where good entertainment for man and horse is Kept; and on Thursday, a stage passage boat with a fine commodious cabin fitted with a tea table and sundry other conveniences, Kept by Matthias Ifelstine, will be ready to receive passengers or goods and proceed directly to New York, and give her attendance at Whitehall Battery. If passengers are ready at the places on stage days 'tis believed they will go sooner from Philadelphia to New York by 24 or 30 hours than by any other way that had been made use of by stage, the boat from Philadelphia to Burlington seldom being above four hours on her passage, and often but two or three hours."

"Good stage wagons with their seats set on springs" were making the journey from Philadelphia in two days in summer and three in winter, at two pence per mile, in 1765. These were popularly known as "Flying Machines," but the speed indicated by the name was not noticeable. From this time until early in 1800 there are no reliable records, but it does not appear that the people of Burlington were any better served by the available methods of traveling. The centers of business, however, changed and Paulus Hook became the head of transportation at the New York end and Trenton captured the monopoly previously enjoyed by Burlington and Bordentown. Many celebrities of those days traveled over this route from New York to Philadelphia, via Perth Amboy and Bordentown. Among them Joseph Bonaparte, the exiled King of Spain; Daniel Webster, Henry Clay, John Quincy Adams, Edward Everett,



Justice Story, De Witt Clinton, and others prominent in national affairs.

The Stage Boat House where passengers transferring from the Stage wagons to the packet boats, (and later to the steamboats) to continue their journey to Philadelphia, awaited the arrival of the usually tardy boat, stood on the site of Price & Craft's coal yard and office, on West Delaware Avenue, then known as Water Street. The neighborhood of the Stage Boat House has a history of title changes which alone would make a chapter. It was comprised in the tract originally acquired by Thomas Ollive when the town was laid out in 1677. Ownership changed from time to time.

Prior to 1711 when the lot was in possession of Richard Basnett, and later of his son William, a large brew house was erected there. In that year Thomas Stevenson became the owner of the property which was known as the New Brew House. The title passed to Peter Baynton, during whose ownership it ceased to be a brewery and became the Stage Boat House. Patrick O'Hanlon conducted it as a tavern during the succeeding ten years. Jonathan Thomas next reigned as the "Boniface." Joseph Haight acquired the title in 1762 and the house was known as the "Sign of General Wolfe" in admiration of the conqueror of Quebec. A sign bearing the portrait of Wolfe swung in front of it.

In 1779 John Wills established a stage line to New Brunswick and purchased the property. The venture was a failure. Adam Sheppard had built the Steamboat Hotel on the corner, now conducted by Clifford S. Price, and the old Stage Boat House, once the center of business activity with a bakery, a cooper shop and a pottery immediately west of it, suffered a decline of patronage and fell into disuse. Charles Vansciver became the owner in 1834, demolished the building and sold the lot to the Camden and

Amboy Railroad Company who for a score of years operated a line of steamboats between Philadelphia and Burlington. The passengers while waiting for the arrival of the steamboat were permitted to occupy the little parlor of the Steamboat Hotel until 1844 when the railroad company erected a waiting room next to the ferry slip.

A half century before a ferry was established by authority between Burlington and Bristol, transportation had been provided across the Delaware. Aarent Schuyler, who came here from Bergen County some years before the arrival of the English Quakers and became the largest landed proprietor among the early Dutch settlers, set up a rope ferry in connection with his log tavern located at the foot of the present Schuyler Ferry Road. For a long time this was the only ferry along the river providing accommodation for horse and wagon.

All other ferries, like that established in 1680 by Samuel Clift over the present ferry route, used primitive wherries. Quaint reference is made to Clift's enterprise in the Colonial records of Pennsylvania as "the ferry against Burlington." It was considered of sufficient importance to influence the location of the town of Bristol. In 1713 a ferry was established between Burlington and Bristol with the consent of the Queen and Council and rules were adopted to control the holders of its charter and franchise. The boats employed were driven by horse power and called team boats. Different parties leased the ferry at different times and after 1751 by Act of Assembly, the profits went to the town. Governor Franklin bestowed the franchise upon his coachman, Adam Sheppard, who refused to account for the receipts, and in 1783 the Legislature confirmed the town in its right to them.

In 1830 the franchise was granted for periods of three years at an annual rental of but thirty dollars. James Eyre

acquired the line in 1834. He built the ferry slip and placed the first steam ferry boat in service. Captain Samuel Stackhouse, of Bordentown, an old steamboat man, succeeded Eyre and was in turn succeeded by George and Goforth Allen, of Bristol. The boats employed during this period of changing ownership were the *Sun*, the *Star* and *William L. Dayton*.

Elwood Doron and Jesse Knight, of Bristol, took over the ferry in the early sixties. Doron bought Knight's interest, took the old *William L. Dayton* off the river and replaced her with the *Elwood Doron*. The new boat was not satisfactory and when William E. Doron became ferry master, on the death of his father in 1890, the craft named for himself was built and continues to ply the waters between Burlington and Bristol.

When steam navigation began the river became, and remained for many years afterward, of much greater advantage to Burlington than at present. For a quarter of a century after the settlement it was the chief means of communication with the outside world. So the arrival of the first steamboat, the invention of John Fitch, was an event in the history of Burlington.

In the spring of 1785 Fitch had tested his model of a steam-driven boat on a small pond in the quiet little village of Davisville, near Bristol. Two experimental boats were built and tried out in 1786 and 1787, and in July 1788 Fitch, with his third boat, made his first trip to Burlington. The river bank was filled with wondering and expectant people. They set up a great cheering as the new craft approached the wharf and began to "round to." While the cheers still rent the air the boiler burst and the boat unexpectedly dropped anchor. She was finally floated back to Philadelphia.

Fitch's steamboat, repaired and improved, was again

seen on the river not long after and made several successful voyages. On October 12, 1788, with thirty passengers on board, she made the twenty miles from Philadelphia to Burlington in three hours and ten minutes. Fitch's fourth boat operated commercially on the river, running as far as Trenton all of the season of 1790. This was seventeen years before the first trip of Fulton's *Clermont* on the Hudson.

Fitch was having trouble with the supporters of his enterprise and finally at the close of the season of 1791 his fifth boat, the *Perseverance*, broke from her moorings and was blown upon Petty's Island. It was his misfortune that he lived and experimented so early. A few years later his labors would have been crowned with financial success, but he cannot be robbed of the honor of building the first American steamboat.

A large craft named the *Phoenix* put on the river in 1809 was the first steamboat to run regularly on the Delaware, touching at Burlington. The *Phoenix* was built by John C. Stevens, at Hoboken, N. J., in 1807 and made her first trip on Sunday, July 30, 1809. Hundreds of people went down to the river to see this great wonder upon its arrival at Burlington. The *Phoenix* was commanded by Captain Davis, or Davidson, and her engineer was Robert Stevens, son of the builder. She was the first steamer that navigated the ocean between New York and Philadelphia. Her speed was eight miles an hour with the tide, and she was looked upon as a perfect specimen of a steamboat although she must have been a strange looking craft if descriptions of her are truthful. According to one of them "the boat had no wheelhouse and presented a singular appearance. Sometimes when in motion the water would be thrown as high as the smokestack." Her arrival and departure were announced by the blowing of a horn. After



running a few years her machinery gave out and she was laid up. The Kensington flats were the grave of the *Phoenix*, and there this pioneer steamboat on the Delaware was suffered to rot down and pass away.

The *Phoenix* was succeeded by the *New Jersey* in 1812 and the *Eagle* in 1813. The *Philadelphia*, built at Hoboken by J. C. Stevens in 1813, commenced running between Philadelphia and Trenton in 1815. Her captain was Abisha Jenkins, a great favorite with the traveling public. Her speed was ten miles an hour with the tide and she carried a small brass cannon, mounted on her forward deck, which was fired on her arrival at Burlington and Bristol. It burst on one occasion, killing one of the deck hands, and was never replaced. A grotesque female figure adorned her bow and for this reason, perhaps, the *Philadelphia* was nicknamed the *Old Sal*. Passengers were received and landed in small boats by signals from the shore.

Rival lines began to compete for the river traffic and other steamboats appeared on the Delaware. They furnished cheap and convenient transportation not only between Philadelphia and the up-river towns but connected with stages at Burlington and Bordentown for New York. As the years went on they were improved in construction until they became handsome, commodious, comfortable and speedy.

A list of boats plying on the Delaware from 1810 to 1876, according to John Wood, publisher of *Wood's Journal*, comprises the *Phoenix*, 1810, *New Jersey*, 1812, *Eagle*, 1813, *New Philadelphia*, 1815, *Trenton*, 1825, *Burlington*, 1826, *Pennsylvania*, 1826, *Franklin*, 1830, *Emerald*, 1830, *Marco Bozzaris*, 1830, *Swan*, 1831, *Congress*, 1832, *John Stevens*, 1845, *Edwin Forrest*, 1845, *Richard Stockton*, no date, *Hornet*, no date, *Nelly White*, 1876, *Pope Catlin*, 1876.

Mr. Wood fails to include the *Albermarle*, *New York*, *Newcastle*, *Bob Morris*, *Llinneas*, *Bolivar*, *Sun*, *Cricket*, *John Neilson*, *Balloon*, *Rainbow*, *Pilot Boy*, *John McMackin*, *T. A. Morgan*, *Belknap*, *Arwames*, *Consolidation*, *Proprietor*, *Trumpeter*, *Silver Star*, *Twilight*, and many others, including the fine old *John A. Warner*, which ran over the Philadelphia-Trenton route as early as the sixties.

There was wonderful competition between the rival lines for years. The "Dispatch Line" was soon disposed of and the "Union" and "Citizen's" lines afterward became merged with the Camden and Amboy Railroad. The *John Stevens* was badly damaged by fire at White Hill on the night of July 16, 1855, and was rebuilt at Bordentown and returned to the river ten years later. In 1869 the old *Burlington* was rebuilt and took her place among river traffic as a tow boat. The present generation will readily recall the *Twilight* and *Columbia* which graced the river in later days and the "Dolphin" line of recent years. The *Columbia*, remodeled and now named the *Franklin*, runs excursions to the down river beach resorts.

Trolley lines for passenger traffic and truck deliveries of merchandise brought about a gradual decline in the business of the steamboats, and Burlington is no longer served by this pleasant and once popular means of transportation. Steamboat transportation had done much for Burlington. The coming of the steam railroad was to do more. As early as 1829 a movement had begun to arouse interest in the possibilities and advantages of transportation on land by steam power.

The first train drawn by a locomotive passed through Burlington from Bordentown to Camden in January, 1834. A line with iron rails laid upon blocks of stone or wooden

sleepers, had been constructed from Bordentown to South Amboy the year before.

The engine, the famous *John Bull*, was built in England in 1830, by Robert Stephenson, for the Camden and Amboy Railroad Company, and cost a little over four thousand dollars. Robert Buzby, of Burlington, engineered the *John Bull* during the summer of 1834 and Joseph L. Wright, of Burlington, fired for him. The cautious corporation thoroughly tested the speed of the engine and its power before retiring the old stage wagons and extending the track to Camden.

The line from Bordentown to Camden was a temporary arrangement of wooden rails faced with iron plates, "it being supposed that it will not be employed more than two or three months in the year and will therefore not require the strength of the portion between Bordentown and New York." The *John Bull* remained in service until 1866, when it was retired and given an honored place in the National Museum.

In anticipation of the coming of the railroad Council had passed an ordinance on April 6, 1831, specifying an annual rental of one hundred dollars for the privilege of "constructing their railroad from Tatham to Ellis Street, in the center of Broad Street." The ordinance also provided for "passage ways for ordinary carriages opposite and at the intersection of all the streets into Broad Street from Tatham to Ellis Streets, both inclusive, and at the intersection of Broad Street the said passage way shall be of sufficient width to admit the passing of two carriages at the same time, and that the present paved gutter ways on Broad Street and High Street shall be arched with substantial mason work sufficient for the passage of water through the same."

The speed of trains was limited to six miles an hour. A

fourth provision of the ordinance was, "There shall be free and convenient carriage ways on either side of Broad Street that the beauty and level of the same shall not be destroyed, and no alterations shall be made which will produce inconvenience to the inhabitants or injuries to their properties." Trains passed through the town twice each day and mails arrived but once, at 9.30 A. M., and closed at 11 A. M. Each train was provided with a "gig." This was a seat with a top like a buggy placed on the rear end of the last car, that its occupant might observe what happened in the rear. A cord for signalling to the engineer was run from the gig to the locomotive.

Trains were heralded by the ringing of a large bell swung from the top of a post, schedule stops not having been adopted. Cars were entered by steps carried to the car door which was in the side, and not at the end of the car as now constructed. Engines were supplied with water from a swinging crane revolving from a hydrant at the curb. Fuel for the engines was obtained from "wood ranks" on West Broad Street, near Washington Avenue, and stops for both wood and water were made at that point until coal was exclusively used for firing. In later years stops for water were made at the Broad Street railroad bridge. The ticket office and waiting room for passengers were in the Broad Street rear of the City Hotel (now the Metropolitan Inn). All freight and baggage was handled in the open street.

There was no railroad connection with Mount Holly at this time. Communication with the county seat was by stage line. Mount Holly people journeyed to Philadelphia either by stage line to Camden, or by stage to Burlington, transferring here to the steamboat or railroad train for Philadelphia. On Saturday, January 7, 1836, a meeting of the citizens of Burlington and vicinity was called to consider



application to the Legislature "for a railroad from Mount Holly to some point on the Delaware in Burlington." A committee was appointed to confer with a similar committee which had been named at a meeting of the citizens of Mount Holly on January 2.

During the following February a charter was obtained, subscriptions for stock were opened and the Burlington and Mount Holly Railroad and Transportation Company was organized. When the company on September 29, 1836, made application for permission to lay rails down along the line of High Street to the Delaware River and Council granted that privilege without asking a pecuniary consideration, the residents of High Street remonstrated strongly. Consideration of the matter was postponed "until the railroad company should cause the way to be made showing the probable course of such routes of running their road contemplated by the company."

Nearly two years later, on May 2, 1838, Council's railroad committee reported the selection of the route over which the road was finally laid and were instructed to mature a contract with the company. Obstructive tactics of the Camden and Amboy Railroad Company delayed the building of the road for twelve years.

Perhaps the first person to take up the duties of railway porter at the Burlington station was stalwart Benny Jackson, a Haitian negro, who came to Burlington in his early manhood. After a period of careless living Benny embraced religion. While continuing a railway porter through the week he was a sturdy preacher of a sturdy gospel on Sunday, and became a bishop. When he and Bishop Doane met upon the streets they exchanged salutes like a brace of heavy frigates, each vying with the other in the exhibition of courtesy. The white brother always raised his hat to his black brother in the ministry.

As a railway porter Benny was consistently courteous. He would take up his patron's trunks tenderly and handle them with care, and his invariable response when asked to name his charge was, "Just as the gentleman (or lady) pleases." Benny and his donkey and his red cart were familiar objects about the railway station until 1885, when the patriarchal porter was gathered to his fathers.

The opening up of stage routes to the outer world, the coming of steamboat and railroad transportation, brought business to Burlington which required accommodation in the town for the traveling public. The old log taverns of Jegou and Aarent Schuyler were well enough in their day, and were the forerunners of more comfortable hostelries to follow.

The public house of Henry Grubb, built in 1695 was the first hotel in Burlington. This property, now the dwellings 108 and 110 High Street, continued as an inn until 1770, when it was vacated by John Shaw, who in that year advertised his removal to the Blue Anchor Inn near the Court House.

Mention is made that prior to 1711, while Richard Basnett resided in the old dwelling now standing on the south side of Delaware Avenue just west of the Steamboat Hotel of Clifford S. Price, he kept public house there and dispensed liquid refreshment. The township records show that on one occasion the township officials adjourned from the Town Hall to Richard Basnett's house to adjust the poor tax. A generation later Basnett's grandson, Thomas Hunloke, gave it the name of the "Sign of the Angel," and we find the vestry of St. Mary's Church holding a meeting there in 1745 to close the bargain for the parsonage property at Broad and Talbot Streets, now known as the Guild House.

Adam Sheppard built the Steamboat Hotel a short time before the Revolution. He remained the owner and pro-

prietor for a quarter of a century, was succeeded by his son Benjamin in 1800 whose son, a second Adam Sheppard, became its owner in 1835 and leased the property to John Wetherill in 1837. Michael Hays purchased the property when Wetherill lost his license through misconduct. Two or three changes in management followed and in 1868 the Steamboat Hotel became the property of John B. Haines. The ownership and occupancy have remained in the Haines family since that time, passing to his son Albert and upon Albert's death to John's grandson by marriage, Clifford S. Price. The Steamboat Hotel possesses historical interest because of its age, its original ownership by Governor William Franklin's coachman, and the fact that a part of the property, the stable, suffered damage when the British war vessels bombarded Burlington in May, 1778.

The most famous of the ancient hostleries of Burlington is the old "Blue Anchor Inn," now the Metropolitan Inn. Built by Richard Smith sometime between the years 1739 and 1751, it was first operated as the Blue Anchor Inn by Fretwell Wright. He was succeeded by Daniel Clayton. In the *Weekly Post Boy*, of April 1770, we find an announcement by John Shaw of his removal from the "House where he kept tavern near the lower Market sheds (at High and Pearl Streets) to the house lately kept by Daniel Clayton, where he is prepared with good stabling and other conveniences for carrying on said house."

It was in Revolutionary times, when the Blue Anchor Inn was managed by James Esdall, that it gained historical interest. During those stormy days it sheltered beneath its roof at various times both the patriots of the Revolution and their enemies. Washington, Knox, Green, Steuben, Cadwalader, Reed, Dickinson and Maxwell, all gathered around its well filled board and reposed within its chambers; while Count Donop, General Rahl, who fell at the battle

of Trenton, and Knyphausen rested within it for a short space.

Richard Wescott became the owner from 1783 to 1812 and failed to meet the terms of his mortgage. George Aaronson entered into possession and remained in control until 1820. He sold out to Daniel Cogswell, who transferred the place to Samuel Cogswell. Six years later when Samuel Rogers acquired the title the Blue Anchor Inn was renamed the "City Hotel" and was conducted by him for thirteen years.

Temperance agitation was rife in Burlington at this time. John Mitchell and Thomas Hancock purchased the property to experiment with it as a temperance hotel. This feature was a failure and in 1848 the City Hotel was again dispensing choice old-fashioned products of the still with Captain Agnew as the host.

Two years later Elisha Beldin took the title, assumed the management and gave the hotel the name "Beldin House." The building was then in its original form, a quaint, old-fashioned structure of two stories and a garret. A verandah ran along the Broad Street front supported by cast iron pipes for pillars, and the lower floor was elevated but slightly above the street level. Mr. Beldin demolished it in 1858 and built the present substantial and commodious hotel property which was then regarded as the equal of any in the State.

Elisha Beldin was a type of "mine host" that passed with the period in which he lived and flourished. It is a pleasing memory to recall the picture he presented standing at the entrance of his handsome new hostelry immaculately clad in broadcloth, with rolling collar and black stock and lustrous silk hat, bowing with the dignity of a United States Senator of that day to his arriving guests as they alighted



from the elegant carriages in which they rolled up to his doorway.

Elisha Beldin was succeeded by his son C. Henry Beldin and the house began to have its big days and to make history again. The fame of its succulent terrapin suppers, prepared as only "Army" Hughes of Bordentown could do it when he acted as chef on such special occasions as the annual receptions given by the men of the Marter and Shedaker families, down the river road, to the Chairs brothers and other visiting friends from the South, was heralded far and wide and the tables would be surrounded by men prominent in every walk of life in Burlington County.

For many years nearly all the meetings of the Burlington County Medical Society were held in the Beldin House parlor and were followed by a banquet served in the dining room. The last session of Court held by Supreme Court Justice Joel Parker was convened in the Beldin House parlor. Judge Parker then lived in the house on High Street a portion of which is now occupied as an office by City Attorney Ernest Watts. The case was a civil suit and Judge J. O. Glasgow and Benajah P. Wills were Judge Parker's associates on the bench. The opposing counsel were Judge Joseph H. Gaskill and Mark R. Sooy. A few hours later Judge Parker was fatally stricken in Philadelphia.

Among the famous people entertained at the Beldin House were General Grant, General George B. McClellan, James G. Blaine, President McKinley when he was Congressman McKinley, Governor Leon Abbett, Madame Jauschek, the great German tragedienne, Judge Lansing, of Nebraska, and that other celebrated Nebraskan William Jennings Bryan, John L. Sullivan, the greatest of the pugilists, and many others nationally known. Harry R. Beldin, grandson of Elisha Beldin, followed his father, C. Henry

Beldin, in the management of the house. Upon his death, W. Gilbert Irons, the present owner and his brother-in-law, John O'Neil, assumed control and the house received its fourth name of Metropolitan Inn.

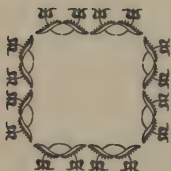
The Washington House was built some time before 1732, but the name by which it was then known has not come down to us. The proprietor at that time was James Moon, who advertised that two stage wagons would go from Burlington to Amboy and back again once a week if sufficient business offered itself. In 1846 the landlord was Samuel Burr, who had purchased the property from Jacob Poole. Burr was succeeded by George Higbee, Elmer Kelly and Benjamin W. Atkinson. Charles Lanning, the present proprietor, transformed the old tavern to its present antique style of architecture.

The Exchange Hotel was another old time hostelry patronized by men who made Burlington history. It was the most homelike public house this city has ever known, a family hotel in which families lived quietly and comfortably, and at which other families took their meals. For a hundred years it enjoyed this enviable reputation and prospered until the eighteenth amendment went into effect. Until it was remodeled it bore the scars of war where a ball tore through its gable when the Americans bombarded the Hessians out of Burlington in December, 1776.

One of the earliest proprietors was Anthony P. Giberson. He was followed by Ezekiel Allen, father of the late George H. Allen. Then came another old time boniface, Abram Kelly. He was followed by Schenck Sutphen and the latter by Joseph W. Marlin who sustained the reputation of the house for its bountiful good cheer the like of which will be rarely found in hotel life today. After the death of "Uncle Joe" the management passed through George L. Garwood and then Edgar M. Watts, until a few

years ago the property was remodeled into stores and apartments.

The old Burlington House at the southeast corner of Delaware Avenue and High Street was built by Michael Hays in 1830. Under his management the house was a popular place of meeting for committees in charge of public affairs and much of the business in connection with the organization of the Burlington and Mount Holly Railroad Company and the Mechanics National Bank was transacted there during his time. The parlor was also used by passengers waiting for the arrival of the steamboat *Sun*. It regained its lost popularity in the '70s when the late Joseph Marlin took the hotel over for a time. Since then its fortunes have varied.



## Down the Grooves of Change

**BURLINGTON** was unchanged in at least one of its aspects by the coming of the steamboat and the railroad. It remained for many years a reserved and residential community with much of the quiet charm of its earlier years.

Thomas Dugdale's saw mill on East Pearl Street, and a grist mill or two, represented an unoffending hum of industry. And yet Burlington was enjoying, and profiting by, a wide reputation for shoe manufacturing. The business, established in 1832, supplied a large demand for its products, chiefly from the Southern States.

This was Burlington's chief industry and there was either a man or a woman, usually both, engaged in the work of making shoes in the greater number of families in the town. The shoemakers were independent characters, worked when they pleased and idled when they pleased. A shoemaker then could make a shoe out and out and his work was individualized. Among them were men with the gregarious instinct who left the loneliness of the garret workshop after a time and jointly rented a large room where a number of them, each on his private work bench, and employed on his own job, worked in company and shared the cost of heat, light and rent. Employes of several different bosses were often found working together in this way. The leading "community" shops, as they were called, were on the upper floors of the "Shanghai Building," at the northeast corner of High and Pearl Streets, and the building on the northwest corner of Broad and York Streets.

Those were the days of the lyceum and debating society in small communities; the days of the "store-box club," when men gathered at the corner grocery and the black-



smith shop and with rude eloquence discussed the subjects which engrossed public thought, political and theological; the days when but few books were read, but they were worth while and were read over and over again and were digested; the days when but few newspapers were printed and men formed their own opinions instead of taking them from the newspapers ready made, as we do now every morning along with our ready prepared breakfast foods.

Burlington was the educational center of the county, and an atmosphere of culture and literary appreciation colored the thought of its people. This was manifested markedly by a custom prevailing among the shoemakers in the community shops. One of their number, gifted in oral reading, was paid the equivalent of his weekly earnings to read to them as they worked. The program for the day began with the reading of the rare newspaper. Then some volume of standard fiction followed, from the works of Scott, Dickens, Ainsworth, Bulwer, G. P. R. James, Cooper or Marryatt, or a story of adventurous discovery like Prescott's Conquest of Mexico or Irving's Spanish Voyages. Surely the times have changed and the manners with them.

This may also be said of the standard of living in Burlington in that period and down to an even later date. In well ordered homes there were few creature comforts. Floors were covered with home-made rag carpet. Walls were whitewashed or colorwashed. In some homes the odd fancy was indulged of smoking the ceilings with a mystic maze design by the smudge from a burning tallow dip.

Four-post bedsteads, often unvarnished, were in the bedrooms. In place of the modern wire springs, strands of rope were stretched from side to side and end to end of the bedstead through holes or around pegs in the bed rails. On this improvised spring was placed a fluffy feather bed covered by the usual sheets, and over all a quilt or comfortable

made by hand from hundreds of vari-colored scraps saved from home dressmaking and sewed together in an ingenious pattern. The guest chamber was distinguished by elaborately embroidered pillow shams, and the inevitable wash bowl and pitcher for ablutionary uses.

The closed parlor, opened only on rare and special occasions and for stated cleanings, was regarded with reverence by youthful members of the family. The "what not" with assorted bits of bric-a-brac; a bouquet of wax flowers covered with a glass dome on a side stand; and the ever present center table, with its fringed cover, surmounted by the mammoth family Bible and family album was the accepted fashion for furnishing the "front room," as it was called. Where something better than a rag carpet could be afforded for this apartment of state, an ingrain or brussels carpet of large and highly colored design, or a rug with medallion center, was a luxurious feature of the furnishings.

Tallow dips and wax candles were the only illuminants. When lard oil lamps, and later camphene, were introduced, they were hailed as wonderful improvements in home lighting. Most rooms had open fire places, but they were small, save for an occasional spacious provision for an open fire in the kitchen. Coal was a curiosity in the country and in the smaller towns, though not uncommon in the large cities. There was nothing like the modern cook stove in use. The most advanced type was the improved Franklin, an open oven stove. Cooking was done for the most part with wood or charcoal on an open fire.

The pioneer coal yard of West Jersey was established in Burlington in 1833 by Thomas Milnor, who had moved here from Philadelphia. It was located at Pearl and St. Mary Streets, the present site of the Industrial Alcohol plant. A limekiln was also operated by Mr. Milnor on the opposite corner. It is interesting to learn that the annual

consumption of the new form of fuel in Burlington was but eighty tons. At that time coal was brought from the mines in large lumps and had to be broken up and separated into sizes at the coal yard for marketing. One of the old sizing machines was standing as a curious relic in the Milnor coal yard as late as 1880.

It was in the middle "thirties," in 1835 to be exact, that the last parade of the unorganized militia, or "watermelon army," as it was derisively known, took place in Burlington. The law required that every male citizen over eighteen years of age should turn out, shoulder a musket, or something resembling a musket, and practice military manœuvres for a day, three times a year.

In case of a refusal to perform this duty a fine was not only inflicted but was collected with painful severity. Those who from conscientious motives (chiefly members of the Society of Friends), declined to parade or pay the fine imposed were sometimes sent to prison, or suffered visitations from the constable, who invaded their household, levied on and removed to the nearest tavern articles of furniture worth five or ten times the amount of the small fine, and then sold them far below their value.

Caleb R. Smith, a prominent citizen, was one of the recusants who was imprisoned for this cause. So shameful were the outrages perpetrated on peace-loving citizens that the office of constable became as infamous as that of the slave hunter on Southern plantations. Public hostility to the law was manifested in various ways. On parade days the officers only appeared in uniform. The men to be drilled came into town clad only in their working clothes, without coat or shoes, and fell into the ranks.

To make the burlesque complete many wore large hats of pasteboard on which cockades of gay colors had been pinned, topped with hen feathers on a tall stick. Some

painted their faces like Indians, others wore clown's caps and striped pants, and carried immense wooden swords and great wooden pistols, dangling from their belts. Whatever was thought likely to make one appear ridiculous was invoked to turn the parade into a farce.

The folly of these parades as drilling schools became so fully apparent that even the officers united in the movement to have the law repealed. The last parade of the "cornstalk and watermelon brigade" held in Burlington was in the summer of 1835. General Irick was the commander. After that the disgusted participants refused to elect officers or to parade again, and in course of time the odious law was repealed.

The rendezvous for this farcical parading was the old arsenal built in 1820 on the west side of York Street, just north of Federal Street. Here were kept the arms and accoutrements. The arms were primitive flintlock muskets of various patterns and were supplied by the State from Trenton. Among them were old Revolutionary relics, some of them captured by General Washington when the Hessians found it prudent to ground arms in the streets of Trenton on a certain memorable Christmas in 1776.

When training days were abolished the quartermaster, Amor W. Archer, sent the arms, colors and drums to Trenton but held on to the arsenal. The war with Mexico brought it into use again when Captain Wallace Collett recruited a company and took them to Mexico, where he found the war had terminated.

The last occasion for using the arsenal for military purposes came at the breaking out of the War of the Rebellion when Captain George C. Burling recruited the Marion Rifles and with them joined the army under McClellan. Then came an interval when the arsenal was closed and useless. When York Street was paved and curbed an



inquiry was set on foot concerning the ownership of the abandoned premises. No one could answer. An attorney was engaged to search records and examine deeds. He found it belonged to the county.

The Freeholders advertised and sold it at auction for eleven hundred dollars. The purchasers were Lowden & Gilbert, pioneers in the canning industry in Burlington, who turned it to the unchivalric use of pickling cucumbers. Later it was taken over by the firm of Sleeper, Wells & Aldrich and became a part of their great canning establishment. When the canning industry declined, in the nineties, the property was purchased by J. LeClerc Shedaker, who covered it with a row of frame dwellings.

In December, 1835, Joseph L. Powell began publishing *The Dollar Newspaper*, the name of which was afterwards changed to *The Burlington Gazette*. It is justly entitled to distinction as the pioneer newspaper of Burlington. Although several attempts were made to establish a paper in Burlington previous to the publication of the *Gazette*, none was successful. In the early part of 1777, a century after the settlement of the town, the first newspaper, *The New Jersey Gazette*, was issued but was removed to Trenton after two or three numbers had been published.

Mr. Powell came to Burlington from Monmouth County when a boy and learned the art of printing under David Allinson, who published a literary paper called *The Rural Visitor*, which was short lived and a pecuniary loss. Upon finishing his trade Mr. Powell embarked in the book and job printing business and employed seven or eight men, including a book-binder. Among them was Henry Hollembaek, then an ambitious young man who had left his home in Franklin County, New York, and drifted to Burlington in search of fame and fortune.

The printing office was in an old frame building which

stood on the west side of High Street where Union Street was later opened through to Wood Street. Mr. Powell used a part of the building as a dwelling and also kept a stationery and book shop. Work becoming dull the prospectus for the *Gazette* was issued and Hollembaek and another printer, Joseph Thomas, went among the people soliciting subscriptions and advertisements.

The first number of the *Gazette* was issued December 16, 1835. For some unexplained reason the second number did not appear until about the middle of January, 1836. In his first editorial Powell used these words: "In religion we are Christian; in politics, Republican."

The paper was devoted to literature, agriculture, politics and the news of the day. The first number contained about a dozen advertisements and not a single local news item. In May, 1839, the words "And New Jersey Silk and Agricultural Register" were added to the title and Charles George, of Hunterdon County, became a partner with Mr. Powell. This was about the time the silk worm speculative fever raged, and a glance over the paper shows that the proprietors were deeply interested in the prevailing excitement. In October of the same year Mr. George disposed of his interest in the paper and early in 1846 the word "Silk" was dropped from its title.

In that year Mr. Powell sold the *Gazette* to Edmund Morris, who was born in Burlington in 1804 and learned printing in the *Freeman's Journal* office in Philadelphia. In 1824 he was part owner of a weekly newspaper at Doylestown, Pa. He carried on the printing business quite extensively for several years in Philadelphia. Mr. Morris wielded a forceful and fluent pen. He was the author of *Ten Acres Enough*, written in the interest of intensive production on small farms, and other works. For three years he had charge of the *New Jersey State Gazette*, in Trenton,

and conducted the *Ariel*, and the *Saturday Evening Bulletin*, in Philadelphia. He died May 4, 1874, and was buried in Burlington.

In 1848, Samuel C. Atkinson purchased the *Gazette* from Mr. Morris. Mr. Atkinson was born in Mount Holly, January 11, 1795, and died in Philadelphia February 2, 1862. In 1851 Mr. Atkinson sold the *Gazette* to John Rodgers, a young lawyer from East Jersey, who soon tired of the business and sold the paper to Franklin Ferguson in 1856. Mr. Ferguson was born in Bucks County, Pa., and learned the printing business at Doylestown. For six years he published the *Washington Whig* at Bridgeton, N. J. He also published a paper in Camden, and in 1848 went back to Bridgeton, where he purchased the *West Jersey Telegraph* and changed the name to *West Jersey Pioneer*.

In February 1876 Mr. Ferguson sold the *Gazette* to James O. Glasgow, a native of Bucks County, Pa., who learned printing in the *Democrat* office at Doylestown. Mr. Ferguson died in Camden, N. J., in June of that year, aged seventy-one years. After Mr. Powell disposed of the *Gazette* he remained in Burlington and was elected Mayor in 1873, and filled various other offices. He died June 1, 1878, aged eighty years.

The high water mark of the *Gazette's* prosperity and usefulness was during Mr. Glasgow's period of ownership. He was appointed a lay judge on the county bench by Governor Leon Abbett. Some time after his retirement from his judicial duties he devoted himself exclusively to the affairs of the *Gazette* and in 1890 merged the weekly into a lively daily.

The *Gazette* resumed its weekly appearances when Judge Glasgow disposed of the paper to J. Mercer Davis in 1917. Changes in ownership followed rapidly. Davis disposed of the paper to William H. Magill and he was

followed by the Messrs. Aurand during whose regime, in 1926, the publication of the historic old sheet was discontinued.

Following the first bow of the *Gazette* to the public, its columns were filled with fulminations against President Andrew Jackson, whose days in the White House were nearing a close, and with no less vehemence against his successor in office, President Martin Van Buren. We find mention made in a prideful manner that "Our street lamps are now lighted with camphene, producing a flood of light when compared with the former wretched affairs." The "former wretched affairs" were oil lamps. The editor expressed the hope that "our corporation will continue to use this brilliant substitute."

Present day members of Council will envy the ease in office enjoyed by their predecessors of that day. While Common Council consisted of but six members it met but twice each year until 1836. In March of that year an ordinance was enacted, "That there shall be four stated meetings in each and every year, to be held on the third Tuesday of March, June, September, and December." Provision was made for the calling of special meetings.

Burlington was without banking facilities in the middle thirties. Attention to this need began with a meeting held on January 28, 1836. A petition was presented to the Legislature asking authorization for a bank to be located at Burlington. When a bill of incorporation was presented in the House of Assembly it was unceremoniously thrown out by an adverse vote on February 24, 1836. Undiscouraged by this discriminating antagonism to the desires of Burlington, for in the meantime charters for other banks had been granted, notably to the little community of Medford, the petitioners continued making application to the Legislature. They finally obtained a charter for a bank,



now the Mechanics National Bank. Because of delays incident to stock subscription and formulating plans of organization, the bank did not open for business until three years later, on Tuesday, July 9, 1839.

The winter of 1835-36 was long remembered. It was unusually severe and prolonged. The river was frozen to such a remarkable thickness that on Washington's Birthday, of 1836, a carnival was held on the river between Burlington and Bristol. A great fire was kindled on the surface of the ice, an ox was roasted whole, and when well cooked was distributed among the throng of merry-makers. That famous ox-roast has become a tradition rather than a memory.

On a summer day in 1836, the peace of the city was greatly disturbed and her quiet citizens incensed by a rude enforcement of the fugitive slave law in Burlington. For several years a colored man, named Severn Martin, had farmed a bit of land a few miles from the city and was generally respected for his industry, economy and integrity.

On August 13, a man calling himself Colonel Christian came to Burlington claiming that Martin had run away from his plantation in Virginia sixteen years before and was his property. Decoyed from his home by Constable Isaac Hancock, on the pretext that the Mayor wished to see him on business, Martin was haled before Mayor John Larzalere who was holding court at the Steamboat Hotel, sitting as a County Magistrate under the United States law and the coördinate enactments of the State of New Jersey.

The evidence of identification offered by Colonel Christian was rather flimsy. He could show no papers describing the alleged fugitive. He based his claim on the rather broad description that his runaway slave was "a light colored nigger" and the corroborative evidence of a pair of villainous looking slave drivers who accompanied him.

Mayor Larzalere seemed to consider this sufficient. Martin was adjudged the property of the Colonel and was placed in the city dungeon to await the arrival of the down river steamboat. When taken from the dungeon and chained to one of the slave drivers Martin resisted desperately, despairingly. He was felled to the ground and dragged through the streets to the wharf. The steamboat captain refused to be identified with such a brutal incident and declined to receive Martin and his captors on board his boat. The unfortunate negro was then loaded into a wagon to be taken away.

But Burlington had been settled by those who suffered persecution in their English homes and had come across the seas to enjoy liberty here. Their descendants were the leading citizens of Burlington and cherished the traditions of their ancestors. To succor this victim of "man's inhumanity to man" became their instant purpose. William J. Allinson, "the little man with the great heart," the friend of the poet Whittier who visited him at his drug store, now the Weaver Pharmacy, headed a committee to solicit subscriptions, raised the sum of eight hundred dollars, which Colonel Christian demanded, and purchased Martin's freedom.

Energetic effort to suppress the liquor traffic was a conspicuous local activity at this time. A temperance society whose membership included the foremost men of the town, particularly those of Quaker descent, had been organized a year or two earlier. Reports of its work were given fullest space in the *Dollar Newspaper* along with editorial plaudits of the society's purposes and beneficent labors. One of these reports, published early in 1836, points proudly to the year's work which included the wiping out of one grog selling grocery and the reduction of the licensed drinking places to four, which the report declared to be "too large

a number for the population of a community like Burlington."

During the summer of 1836 Bishop Doane was making public announcement that an opportunity was now afforded for the establishment of an institution, known as St. Mary's Hall, for the education of young ladies under the auspices of the Protestant Episcopal Church. "Nothing shall be spared," the Bishop writes, "that can promote the comfort, health, taste, manners, morals, intelligence and spiritual improvement of the institution so that our daughters may be as the polished corners of the temple." When the Hall was opened on May 1, 1837, provision had been made for eighty pupils.

The silk culture fever, a speculative mania which had its rise in 1836, was now raging in Burlington. The belief had been assiduously fostered that silk culture might become a successful and highly profitable industry in this portion of the western world, and an astonishing number of Burlington people of every class were caught by that alluring prospect.

The Burlington Silk Company was organized and obtained a charter from the Legislature in 1839. Large cocooneries, erected by stock subscription, on Federal Street and at Union and York Streets, and smaller ones, privately managed, began operations. In private dwellings all over town the culture of silk worms was carried on, and mulberry trees (the leaves of which were the food of the silk worm) were grown in many town gardens and on the spacious acres of neighboring farms.

It was said that more mulberry trees were reared in this vicinity than could be found in any section of the nine states in which the silk culture mania had developed. For a time this was profitable. Trees of one season's growth sold for one dollar each and thieves were raiding mulberry plantations and carrying off the valuable young trees. John

Mitchell, a heavy grower of the trees, became the local Sherlock Holmes and gathered evidence which led to the arrest of Dr. Joseph L. Rogers, a Thompsonian physician, who was convicted of stealing trees from Dr. Heineken and was sentenced to three years in the State prison.

Among those engaged in the culture of silk worms and the growing of mulberry trees we find such prominent Burlington names as Doane, Hewlings, Mitchell, Booth, Durell, Chauncey, Powell, Van Rensselaer, Allen, Morris, Woolman, Oliver and many others. Patient experiment was followed by meagre returns and disastrous failure. The directors of the Burlington Silk Growing and Manufacturing Co., whose actual production of silk in small quantities had stimulated the speculative interest of others, anticipated the coming collapse. They advertised their large cocoonery for sale and the building was converted into the six dwellings, Nos. 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21 East Federal Street. This company was among the few lucky ones who profited by the business, and abandoned it, before the reverses came which meant money losses to a surprisingly large number of Burlington people.

Lectures, concerts, and meetings for public purposes were held in the assembly rooms of the private academies of the town until 1839. In that year a syndicate of public spirited citizens erected on High Street a Lyceum Hall with fine acoustic properties. Here some of Burlington's talented citizens, and prominent platform orators from abroad, held forth, famous singers and musical organizations were heard, and rousing political meetings were held. Interest finally lagged and in 1851 the building was turned over to the city for use as a City Hall.

The original Lyceum building stood about twenty feet west of the street line. When it became the City Hall a two-story front addition was erected. The second story



was arranged for a Council Chamber, and for a time the city prison occupied the front lower floor. The acquisition of this new municipal building was concurrent with the demolition of the old market house and town hall which had stood in the middle of East Union Street since 1794.

When the Lyceum became the City Hall it continued to be the only building in Burlington providing an auditorium for public meetings and secular entertainment until 1877, when the Birch Opera House was erected. The moral panorama, chaste tableaux vivant, amateur plays by local talent, concerts, lectures, occasional visits of sleight of hand performers, ventriloquists and minstrel troupes, the fashionable annual city ball, fire company balls, and the popular church fairs were all held in the City Hall and provided the varied diversions which satisfied the seekers for entertainment in Burlington and vicinity.

The temperance movement, begun seven years before, culminated in the charter election of 1842. The temperance men, determined to close the taverns, nominated an anti-liquor ticket. The Whigs and Democrats nominated a Union opposition ticket, taking three candidates from each party. An exciting Councilmanic contest followed. The entire Temperance ticket was elected by twenty-three majority. The successful candidates were Thomas Booth, Lewis C. Leeds, Joseph Kerlin, William J. Allinson, Jacob Mitchell and Robert T. Willitts.

When the new Council met and organized the four innkeepers petitioned for license. A resolution was presented that it was inexpedient to grant them. It was then agreed that the petitioners should be heard. The ensuing discussion was continued on the following day but no licenses were granted except one to Betsy Powell to keep a temperance house.

That evening two members of Council, Booth and Allin-

son, were hanged in effigy by a mob and Betsy Powell's place was raided. The next day the four hotels were closed, the bar-rooms shut up, the signs were taken down and the entrances to the stables secured. Great excitement prevailed in the town. Travelers by every train were irritated by their inability to "wet their whistles." Strangers could find no lodging places. Farmers coming into town found no accommodation for man or beast.

Salesmen, discovering the condition, avoided Burlington, preferring to do business in communities where the creature comforts might be enjoyed. A large body of sailors on their way to New York got off the train for a drink. They were amazed at finding the hotels closed and listened incredulously to the explanation that was given them. But they seem to have been good sports, for when they boarded the train to resume their journey they gave three uproarious cheers for the temperance people of Burlington. Finally interest in the contest died out, the licenses were granted, and the hotels opened again.

In November, 1842, two belligerent young naval officers, Alexander C. Rhind and Robert A. Knapp, came to Burlington with their seconds and fought a duel. They chose the ground inside the lower sluice bank for the scene of their encounter. With the exchange of shots one of them was wounded in the cheek and was attended by Dr. N. W. Cole, the leading practitioner among fashionable folks, of whom it was said that in his practice of phlebotomy he had spilled quarts of the bluest blood in Burlington.

This invasion of Burlington for a murderous purpose stirred the people to great indignation. A sermon was preached in the Presbyterian Church against duelling. A public meeting was held in Lyceum Hall at which resolutions were passed invoking the law against the offenders

and petitioning President Tyler to dismiss them from the naval service.

Burlington seems to have remained contented for more than a century and a quarter with primitive means for obtaining water for domestic uses. Public and private pumps and private wells supplied potable water and the pump maker found frequent reward for his industry. Rain water drained from the roofs of dwellings was caught and retained in cisterns for other uses.

In 1804 the Burlington Acqueduct Company organized and piped water through wooden conduits from a reservoir at Springside to a small section of the city. The supply was meagre and the pressure did not carry to the second story of any dwelling. Bath tubs were luxuries which must be placed on the first floor or, better, in the basement, if the Acqueduct Company's water was used. The expectant bather must be patient for the flow was very slow, and he must be fairly prosperous for the cost of the water was high. The rules of the Acqueduct Company regarding the use and waste of water were exacting and rigidly enforced. The story comes down to us that a Burlington hotel keeper was fined five dollars for giving a horse a pail of water.

In 1843, Thomas Dugdale became a competitor of the Acqueduct Company. He laid iron water pipes along a number of streets and gave the city the free use of twenty-five fire hydrants. A few years later he acquired the franchise of the Acqueduct Company and sold his interest in 1860 to the Burlington Water Company, a private organization from whom the city purchased the works in 1877.

Burlington had its Burbank in those days, Nathaniel Stowell, an unpretending horticulturist, so engrossed in the patient study of plant propagation and the development of new species, in his York Street garden, that while he may have had his dreams they did not reveal to him that

"Stowell's Evergreen Corn" would be listed in seed catalogues three-quarters of a century later. David Allen, another noted horticulturist, had an extensive plantation on the east side of High Street south of Federal Street, and was also caretaker of the broad lawns, and beds of succulent vegetable growth, adjoining Henry Carey's homestead on High Street, now the Alcazar Hotel.

The Carey house dates back to Burlington's earliest days. It was built in 1678 by Thomas Ollive, for a time acting Governor of West Jersey. In 1833 it became the property of Henry Carey, the political economist, who lived there until 1854. Carey, himself a man of much attainment and intellectuality, a philosopher and scholar of note, was the son of Michael Carey, a printer and writer of ability, a forceful character in the world of publication and letters, who lived before the Revolution, a contemporary of Franklin and an intimate friend of Washington and Jefferson. Henry Carey lived here the life of a retired gentleman, and much of his work on political economy was done in the Burlington house. Carey had many friends, in state and national affairs and literary pursuits, who dined in the Carey house and talked over important matters of the time. Bishop Doane was a frequent caller.

It was an imposing residence in those early days with its large colonial doorway and quaint interior. Spacious parlors, old-fashioned doors, brass door knobs and peculiarly shaped latches, wide floor planks, winding stairs, chimney cupboards, and a half dozen old time fire places where logs were used for fuel, were features of the upper and lower floors. At either end of the sidewalk in front of the house were two big sycamore trees which had stood there since the settlement of Burlington.

With its broad lawn and garden extending nearly to the present City Hall on the south and half way to Wood



Street on the west, the Carey homestead was one of the beauty spots of Burlington. The Careys are all buried in historic St. Mary's Churchyard. In 1909 a kindly man, an admirer of Henry Carey's work as an author, had a stone cutter engrave upon the tombstone of the political economist the simple words, "Philosopher of Statesmanship." In later years the Carey house became a business exchange, a reading-room and coffee house, and in 1889, when purchased by the late Frederick Peter, was converted into a hotel and named "The Alcazar." Peter was succeeded by Irons & O'Neill, and when they assumed control of the Metropolitan Inn, by Mark and David Atkinson.

Another passionate devotee of horticultural pursuits was Captain Frederick Engle, a naval officer who resided for many years in the property now occupied by Maybury H. Ballinger, on West Broad Street, at the corner of Engle Avenue. In July 1845 Captain Engle was assigned to the command of the U. S. S. *Princeton* and sailed to the Gulf of Mexico to assist in putting down the Dons who were then making trouble for Uncle Sam.

Much interest was aroused among property owners at this time by the prospect of having the State Lunatic Asylum located at Burlington. A commission appointed to select a site for the institution was actively engaged in that duty and attention had been directed to suitable properties in the suburbs of Burlington. The commission came here and in company with a committee appointed at a town meeting, inspected a number of eligible sites. Trenton had a stronger pull than Burlington and the Asylum went there.

The year 1846 saw greater improvement in Burlington than any of its predecessors. Samuel W. Stockton had generously donated the land for opening a public street (West Union Street), originally called Stockton Street, fifty feet wide extending six hundred and ten feet to Wood Street,

and was erecting the large brick dwelling now occupied as a Masonic Hall and two stores on High Street. Mr. Stockton was the father of modern mechanical dentistry. His experimental laboratory produced the first porcelain teeth. They were so superior in every way to the substitutes for lost teeth in use before his time that he was awarded medals in Paris, London and America for his achievement.

John Griscom had dug the first spade full of earth for the foundation of the Stacy Street schoolhouse and the building was in course of construction. Burlington Lodge of Odd Fellows was erecting the combination of three dwellings with the third floor over all fitted up for a lodge room. Sixty-four houses were under construction. The chapel of the Holy Innocents attached to St. Mary's Hall was nearing completion. Plans for the new church of St. Mary's were adopted at a vestry meeting held on September 25, and on November 17, with impressive ceremonies, the corner stone was laid for the present chastely beautiful structure, the first cruciform church with a central tower and spire erected in America. In that same year Burlington College was incorporated and opened.

A year later the Methodists found the church edifice erected in 1820 not large enough for the use of the congregation. The subject of a new house of worship was considered at a meeting of the congregation on February 1, 1847. It was decided to replace the old church with a large edifice calculated to accommodate an audience of one thousand persons. The corner stone was laid on May 3, the church was completed in five months, and was dedicated on December 30, 1847. St. Mary's Hall and Burlington College had become flourishing institutions by this time. Their student roll comprised three hundred boys and girls from every quarter of the country. In the College there were five priests and six young men studying for the ministry.

The only military relic remaining to Burlington from Colonial times, the Old Barracks, erected at the junction of Broad Street and the Assiscunk Creek in 1758, lost its identity when Rev. Jeremiah Ahearn came to Burlington in 1849, organized St. Paul's R. C. Church and converted the ancient place of war into a peaceful place of worship. The main building was remodeled for a church, the principal outwork became a parsonage, the long walls which connected the structure disappeared, and the parade ground became a cemetery. The only portion of the Barracks yet remaining is that part now standing back of and adjoining St. Paul's Parochial School.

Until 1851 Burlington was governed under the old Colonial charter of 1784 which provided a Mayor, three Aldermen and six members of Council. Led by Colonel James W. Wall, a successful effort was made before the Legislature, in 1850, to procure a new charter. This was granted and by its provisions, in the spring of 1851, Col. Wall was elected Mayor; Amor W. Archer, Joel Rakestraw and John P. Fireng, Aldermen; and the following members of Council, Archibald W. Burns, President, Joseph Johnson, Joseph L. Wright, Wardrop J. Hall, Lewis C. Leeds, William Smith, Henry Hollembaek, William R. Deacon, Elwood Connor, George W. Myers, Charles Lippincott; Treasurer, Daniel Van Sciver; City Police, Nathan Sisom and Hali Woodington.

The Council organized in the upper chamber of the old Market House. The chairs in which they sat were made a half century earlier, and the antiquated long table about which they gathered was held up by cross supporting timbers. The subject of city improvements arose. The discussion ended with a decision to demolish the old Market House, with its market stalls, bell and belfry above and dungeons below.

Two sites were offered for the new Market House, one on High Street, extending south from Dr. Cole's house (now Miss Broome's store) to Samuel R. Wetherill's (now the Ellis Building), and back to Stacy Street; the other site offered by Thomas Dugdale was where the Endeavor Fire House now stands. The contest in Council was sharp, lasting until two o'clock in the morning. The friends of Mr. Dugdale succeeded. The old Market House came down and the new one, designed by Councilman Wardrop J. Hall, was erected. Council met here for a time, until the present City Hall was taken over. With the erection of the new Market House Council adopted a revised ordinance for its regulation.

Market days were Wednesday and Saturday from daylight until eight o'clock in the morning from the twenty-fifth day of March to the first day of November, and until nine o'clock from the first day of November until the twenty-fifth day of March, of every week. No butcher or dealer in provisions in the town other than those attending the market was permitted to sell such articles of food as were exposed in the market until after the ringing of the market house bell at eight o'clock and a penalty of three dollars for each offense was imposed alike upon such offending buyers and sellers.

The market stalls were numbered and were rented at public sale to the highest bidders for a sum not less than ten dollars per year, to be paid quarterly. Licenses were also granted to other persons desiring to occupy a portion of the sidewalk fronting their premises with stands for the sale of meats, fruits and vegetables. A schedule of rates was also established for the sale of produce by persons attending the market who were not renters of stalls, ranging from twelve and a half cents for every carcass or part of a carcass of beef to half cent for every score of eggs sold.



Sales of any sort of meats by steelyard were forbidden under a penalty of three dollars for every such offense. The clerk of the market in addition to collecting the market fees was the official sealer of weights and measures. He attended the market with scales and sealed weights on every market day ready to expose persons using defective scales or weights.

Farmers and others attending the market were required to enter the market place with their teams on the Eastern passage and withdraw by the Western passage. The penalty for violation of this requirement was one dollar. Penalties were also provided for failure to remove offal of fruits and vegetables, and the heads, feet and bones of fowl and cattle.

Louis Kossuth, the distinguished Hungarian patriot, who did so much to arouse and sustain the spirit of his countrymen in their revolt against Austrian rule, came to Burlington while he was in this country in 1852, presenting the cause of Hungary to the people of America. Common Council by resolution extended an invitation to him to come to Burlington and deliver an address. He arrived on a Saturday accompanied by the Count and Madame Pulsky, of Hungary, and others of his ardent supporters. In a book written by Madame Pulsky, which can be found in the Burlington Library, she speaks endearingly of Burlington and its people.

The city authorities were at a loss how and where to entertain Kossuth and his entourage. The best hostelry in the town in those days was hardly a proper place for such distinguished guests. Col. James W. Wall, who was serving as the first Mayor under the charter of 1851, smoothed the situation out by undertaking the responsibility of their entire entertainment. They became his guests at his mansion on High Street.

When Kossuth delivered his address the City Hall, the building that was then thought large and elegant, could accommodate only a small part of his interested audience. An open air meeting was held in front of the Wall homestead on High Street, and from the balcony which formerly jutted from the second story of the building Kossuth made a passionate appeal for material aid in support of the righteous cause of his countrymen.

Anti-Slavery sentiment had been growing for some years. Agitation of the subject had led to the organization of a mythical corporation of humanitarian persons whose purpose was to secretly help runaway slaves from Southern plantations make their way to Canada. It was known as the "Under Ground Railroad." Many fugitive slaves were indebted to members of the Society of Friends who aided them in a quiet way and the operations of the Under Ground Railroad were always fairly safe where the line of travel led through Quaker communities.

Burlington was one of the "way stations" of this mythical railroad. So carefully was its business conducted that the public at large did not know of the mysterious appearance of carefully concealed strange negroes one day, and their mysterious disappearance the next day, as the Under Ground Railroad carried them secretly to unknown destinations.

In the Summer of 1851, a negro named Peter Still, who had purchased his freedom from his master in Alabama and left his wife and children behind in slavery, came North seeking his parents. He found one brother, William Still, an official in the Anti-Slavery office in Philadelphia; another, Dr. James Still, at Medford, and his mother and other brothers and sisters living on a farm near Burlington.

Peter and his brother Levin, when but boys of six and eight years, had been kidnaped while playing before their

mother's door and sold into slavery in Kentucky. Levin died, Peter married and raised a family in slavery. When he purchased his own freedom it was with the hope that as a free man he might more readily raise the money to ransom his wife and children. Peter became a family servant of Mrs. Mary A. Buckman and later with Judge E. E. Boudinot. Meanwhile he held firmly to the belief that a way might be found to free his family. These Burlington friends encouraged him in that belief. Correspondence with the owner of Peter's wife and children led to an agreement to accept five thousand dollars for them.

Armed only with letters from Mrs. Buckman, Judge Boudinot, Rev. Courtlandt Van Rensselaer and Dr. Joseph Parrish, and the strength of his own indomitable purpose, this unlettered negro left Burlington on March 8, 1852, and for two years toured the towns and cities of New York and New England telling his story from church pulpits, going with it from door to door, soliciting donations for the salvation of his family from slavery.

What had seemed a hopeless task at first was accomplished. The five thousand dollars was raised and Peter Still's wife and children made their exit from the house of bondage and joined him in Burlington. The marriage certificate had been lost, and in March, 1855, Peter and Vina, his wife, were reunited in wedlock in a unique ceremony by Rev. Washington Barnhurst, pastor of Broad Street M. E. Church. Their descendants are found among the most esteemed members of their race in Burlington and vicinity.

The mild radiance of candles and whale oil lamps had partially dissipated the gloom of night in Burlington for many years after the settlement of the town. Along in the middle thirties of the nineteenth century camphene was introduced and hailed as a vast improvement until the dis-

covery of coal oil in 1859 provided a more satisfactory illuminant.

When in 1852 the Burlington Gas Company was incorporated by James W. Wall, John South, Edmund Burke and Franklin Woolman, works were erected on South High Street and gas mains were laid through a few streets. This new method of lighting dwellings and streets found favor with but few persons at first. By slow degrees its use became in time well nigh universal, particularly after the device of asbestos mantles added brilliance to the gas flame. It was adopted for street lighting; was replaced by gas producing gasoline lamps; was re-adopted and used until electric lighting took its place in 1899. Until then the public lamplighter was a familiar and necessary city official.

The first superintendent of the gas works was William Morris. Upon his death in the early sixties his brother, Edward Morris, became manager of the works assisted by Bernard Morris and Thomas Lyons. Edward Morris served the Burlington Gas Company and its successor, the Public Service Company, for half a century, until a central gas producing plant was established at Camden.

It is interesting to note that until the streets were lighted electrically Common Council practiced municipal economy by ruling that street lights be not lighted on moonlight nights.

In 1853 a little group of Methodists withdrew from the Broad Street M. E. Church and worshipped in Odd Fellows Hall. They laid a corner stone for a church at Union and York Streets on August 16, 1853 and by March 15, 1854 the Union M. E. Church was erected and dedicated.

On the 29th of August, 1855, the first big railroad accident in the annals of railroading in the United States occurred in East Burlington when a train backing on a



switch collided with the two horse team of Dr. Heineken, of Columbus, N. J., killing the horses and wrecking half a dozen cars.

The mail train for New York, with mail and baggage cars and five or six coaches, left Camden on the morning of that day at the same time the mail train from New York was on its way to Camden. In those days there was a siding called Hammell's turnout located about a mile east of Steven's station. From motives of economy this had been abandoned, the switch spiked and the switchman removed. The nearest siding to this was at Florence in one direction and East Burlington in the other.

At one of these sidings the two trains should have met, but as neither was obliged to lay off for the other both proceeded on their way with the intention of making the half way post and driving its opponent back. As the road between Florence and Burlington is straight the two trains saw each other some time before they met. The west bound train succeeded in reaching the post first. The east bound train stopped and began to back to Burlington at a high rate of speed. Before reaching the siding at East Burlington a public road was crossed. Just as the train was approaching this road Dr. Heineken, unaware of the backing train, attempted to cross the tracks.

The horses were struck and killed, the cars were thrown off the track and in an instant were piled up in a terrible wreck. Some of the cars were so demolished that it was only by counting the trucks found in the wreckage that the wrecking crew could tell how many cars had composed the train. Twenty-one persons were killed and of the seventy-five injured four or five died afterward. The French Consul on his way to New York was one of the injured.

The people of Burlington were stirred to an unexam-

pled pitch of excitement, consternation and compassion. Business was suspended and every effort was made to relieve the condition of the victims of the disaster. Never has the spirit of helpfulness been more universally displayed in Burlington. The dead and wounded and dying were brought into town and taken into a number of houses, and the Carey house, then vacant, was hastily fitted up with improvised cots and became a temporary hospital for the care of the sufferers.

St. Barnabas Free Mission Chapel, as it was first called, was opened in 1856 by Rev. William Croswell Doane, second son of Bishop Doane. An exchange was made with the Board of Island Managers of the old school building, erected in 1805, at the corner of Broad and St. Mary Streets, for the lot at the corner of St. Mary and Barclay Streets, where they put up the building which was remodeled in 1899 into the present Capt. James Lawrence School. In 1858 the present St. Barnabas' Church was erected, and on Nov. 27th of that year it was consecrated by Bishop Doane.

The Bishop had been in failing health for some time. His death on April 27, 1859 affected the community more profoundly than the passing of any other man in its history. The day of his funeral, Saturday, April 30, was one of mourning, real and heartfelt. The funeral procession which extended a mile, included more than three hundred surpliced clergymen, the Governor, Chief Justice, President King of Columbia College, New York; Judges and Senators, Church dignitaries from Trinity Church, New York City; St. Paul's, Hoboken, N. J., and delegates from Troy, N. Y., and other cities and towns in New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The houses on Wood Street and other parts of the town in the vicinity of the church were all closed and the doors and window shutters were hung with crepe. As

the cortege passed, weeping women in mourning appeared at the windows. When the procession reached the burial ground at least three thousand people were assembled around the church and the grave. The place of his burial is marked with a coped tomb of brown free stone, beautiful in design and workmanship, adorned with sculptured symbols of the mitre, the parochial staff and keys and the crown of thorns.

The score of years from 1843 to 1863 was marked by the death of many other men prominent in the public life of Burlington—the stately and erudite John Gummere; the dignified and sympathetic physician, Dr. N. W. Cole; the learned and eloquent advocate, Garrett D. Wall; the thoughtful and modest educator, John Griscom; the polished and zealous apostle, Stephen Grellett; the earnest and devoted Courtlandt Van Rensselaer; Budd Sterling, whose name was indicative of his character; Margaret and Amelia Smith, two benevolent and charitable women; William R. Allen, respected and honored, the father of the act incorporating the public schools of Burlington, superintendent of the schools of the township from 1854 to 1856, one of the incorporators and the first president of Mechanics National Bank, member of the Assembly when the charter for the Camden and Amboy railroad was passed, a commissioner for the erection of the State Penitentiary at Trenton, a delegate to the convention in 1844 to frame a new constitution for New Jersey, and one of the Committee on Judiciary. Perhaps no man in the community in his time was more frequently consulted in matters of importance to the city than William R. Allen, its Mayor for sixteen years.

## The Civil War Period

TO those born within the last sixty years the story of Civil War days is but a fact read in history, a tradition that has been told them. To those born a few years earlier it is a childhood memory, beginning with an instinctive sense of unrest, a vague perception of impending danger that furrowed the foreheads of their fathers, the overhearing of strange conversations at home, in neighbors' houses, at the corner grocery, and on the street—conversations teeming with such cryptic phrases as "the Dred Scott decision," "bleeding Kansas," "Missouri Compromise," "John Brown's raid," "conspiracy of Southern politicians," "traitors in the Cabinet," and "secession"—phrases unmeaning to children but burdened with apprehension to the men and women of Burlington and every city and hamlet in the North.

With the Presidential campaign of 1860 Lyceum Hall became the scene of violent outbreaks of partisan rancor. Political meetings were disturbed and ended in disorder by the turning out of lights, rotten egging of orators, and other manifestations of disagreement with the purpose of the meeting. The election of Lincoln was followed by the romantic story of his secret journey to Washington to be inaugurated, the seizure of government stores in arsenals of the Southern States, and the firing upon the U. S. steamer *Star of the West*.

Then one morning, a month later, in mid-April, 1861, groups of excited men stood on the street corners of Burlington, and with bated breath and angry faces told how Fort Sumpter had been fired upon. Partisan rancor disappeared. Four days later, April 15, came Lincoln's call for seventy-five thousand men and the war was on. No day



was sacred save to the cause of country. Even the quiet of the Sabbath morn was broken by blaring drums and shrilling fifes as recruiting squads paraded the streets. The war was on; volunteers were called for; Burlington men were enlisting every day; and the little building at the southeast corner of Broad and High Streets (now occupied by the United Cigar Co.), then the armory of the Marion Rifles, and the old Arsenal on York Street, became the first recruiting headquarters in Burlington.

The Marion Rifles at once offered their services to the government and were accepted. Seventy-eight men were required to make the full complement of the company and forty of that number enlisted on the first day. Every man was provided with two wool undershirts and two pairs of drawers, the work of the women of Burlington whose hands obeyed the promptings of patriotic hearts. One venerable woman, of eighty years, asked that she be permitted to assist so that she might have the consciousness of knowing that her last work was in the aid of the flag which had protected her since her infancy. The Rifles left Burlington on the first stage of their journey to the front on Saturday morning, April 27, 1861, twelve days after Lincoln's call for volunteers.

The military spirit of the people of Burlington became more evident every day. Immediately on the departure of the Marion Rifles the Higbee Guards, composed of young men between the ages of eighteen and twenty-five was formed, officered by Captain Charles H. Willitts; First Lieutenant, Charles H. Beldin; Second Lieutenant, William G. Willitts. In addition to the Higbee Guards another company was formed with the title "Rescue Guards," with these officers: Captain, B. Loyd James; First Lieutenant, Charles M. Rogers; Second Lieutenant, William G. Binney. Common Council passed an ordinance appropriating monies

for the relief of the families of the militia of the State and William R. Allen, Samuel W. Earl, Thomas Robb and John Larzalere were appointed a committee to distribute these funds.

Long troop trains began to pass through Burlington, freight cars blue with young soldiers within the cars and on the tops of the cars, and even on the cowcatcher of the engine at times, going southward, never northward, always southward, a jolly crowd, singing, joking, laughing, and flinging cartridges and hardtack to the crowds of wondering and admiring Burlington boys, as if going on a picnic. Some of them came back a few years later, browned and bearded and in faded blue, but not so jolly, and many there were who never came back at all.

The first train load of troops to pass through Burlington, bound for the seat of war, was the Sixth Massachusetts regiment which was attacked on April 19 by a mob of ten thousand men while passing through Baltimore, when several of the soldiers were killed and wounded and nine of the mob were killed and many wounded. Survivors among those who were attending the St. Mary Street Public School at that time may recall that the pupils were permitted to go to Broad and St. Mary Streets to witness the passing of this first troop train. More volunteers were called for; neighbors and neighbors' sons were still responding; long freight trains filled with troops were still passing through Burlington, journeying southward, but it had become a familiar event unnoticed by school principals.

As the fateful months went by, more and more the faces of men were missed from off the streets; five hundred of them had gone to the front. It is said that at one time but five members of the Hope Fire Company remained at home; the others were in the army. One-armed and one-legged men became familiar objects on the street. In neighbors'

homes and in the churches funerals were held for those who died in prison pens, in hospitals and upon the battlefields of the South. Nearly four hundred of them now lie in the burial grounds of Burlington.

To those who remained at home through force of circumstances it was a time of privation in the household, of jeopardy in business, of family ties broken, of alternating hopes and fears and sacrifices and sorrows. The shoemakers of Burlington who were too old, or physically unfit for military duty, were now engaged in the arduous labors of making by hand the heavy shoes needed for the army. The women, formerly employed in the lighter work of lining and binding shoes, were finding it a wearying task to sew the clumsy cloth which they fashioned into soldiers' clothes. The headquarters of this industry was the upper floor of the Market House (now the Endeavor Fire House) on East Union Street. Teachers and children in the public schools, and women and children in the homes, were engaged at the call of the Sanitary Commission in making "lint," picking apart the threads of old linen and cotton goods with no safeguards for septic conditions. This product was the universal dressing used by army surgeons in treating wounds of soldiers.

One of Burlington's foremost citizens was the victim of an unjustifiable act of tyranny in 1861. Col. James W. Wall, who served as the first Mayor of Burlington under the charter of 1851, had formed close friendships with prominent men in the South and was regarded with suspicion by Federal authorities. A letter written by him, severely criticising the action of Postmaster General Montgomery Blair in suppressing certain newspapers, was confiscated by the government. Charges of treason were preferred against Colonel Wall and on September 11, 1861, United States Marshal Benajah R. Deacon and four deputies came to

Burlington and were joined by Mayor William R. Allen and three of his police.

It was after two o'clock of a hot day and the streets were nearly deserted. Colonel Wall was at dinner with his family. Some of the marshal's forces went to the rear of the house, some by the alley to Wall's office, and some to the front door where word was sent to the Colonel that a friend wished to see him in his office. Here Marshal Deacon read the warrant of arrest. Wall protested. The Marshal pointed to the officers in the back yard. Wall seized him by the throat and threw him across the room. The deputies, the Mayor and the police all closed in upon the resisting Colonel. He laid one of them out upon the floor. Still struggling, he was forced from his home in sight of his wife and children. With his shirt bosom torn out, his coat torn and without a hat, Wall was dragged up High Street to the railroad station a few minutes before the arrival of the train for New York.

At this crisis there were many determined faces in the rapidly increasing gathering of amazed spectators. Marshal Deacon observing this said to Wall, "It will be useless to rescue you for I have orders to bring a regiment from Trenton if necessary." Wall's discretion alone prevented an attempted rescue by his friends. He was placed aboard the train and taken to Fort Lafayette. The entire town was stirred by this event. Even those who differed with Wall politically were astounded by the outrage of his arrest. When in bitterness his friends swarmed the streets that evening planning some act of retaliation the military company, fearing a raid, quietly took their rifles from the armory and secreted them.

The government seemingly repented its arbitrary act. Two weeks later Colonel Wall was released from Fort Lafayette. On the evening of September 24th Wall returned



to Burlington. When he stepped from the train to the platform, bands blared, houses were illuminated, and a roar of voices greeted him. He took the waiting coach drawn by four horses, led by a cornet band, and surrounded by hundreds of torchlights held by hands of those who would have given their lives in his defense, and the assembled citizens marched down High Street to his residence (now the Jewish Synagogue), the vicinity of which was packed with people.

Colonel Wall passed up to his doorway between two lines of little girls, dressed in white, representing the states of the Union. He stepped inside the door for a moment to greet his family. Then he returned to acknowledge the popular tribute of his townsmen who wildly applauded the eloquent address in which he fervidly denounced the government's invasion of personal liberty, and its "American Bastile," the title he bestowed upon Fort Lafayette.

These events, and the attitude of certain prominent citizens who persisted in the exercise of what they claimed to be the right of free speech in recklessly criticising the policy of the government in time of war, made Burlington notorious despite the prompt and loyal response of her sons to the call of Uncle Sam. As trains arrived at the railroad station, passengers would put their heads out of the car windows and ask, "Is this the Secession City?" Soldiers in the passing troop trains would insult waiting citizens on the station platform by mashing their hats down upon their heads. But Burlington remained patiently patriotic.

While the Twenty-third Regiment of New Jersey Volunteers was being recruited in September 1862, Franklin Ferguson, the editor of the *Burlington Gazette*, inaugurated a movement to raise by contributions from the Sunday School pupils of Burlington County a sum sufficient for the purchase of a stand of colors for the regiment. The re-

sponse was immediate. The ceremony of presentation took place on the Fair Grounds at Mount Holly. The Sunday School children of Burlington, and every town in the county, each carrying a flag and accompanied by bands of music, traveled to the County Seat on a mid-September day, paraded around the Fair Grounds, and with a vast concourse of people gathered around the judges' stand and witnessed the ceremony of the presentation. These colors figured tragically in the sanguinary battle of Salem Church when they were shot down twice, and Charley Sibley, of Company A, was shot dead while taking them up.

The weary war time months of 1862 went dragging by, months filled with alternate mourning and rejoicing, months made fateful by the indecisive operations in the Shenandoah Valley; the failure of McClellan's advance on Richmond; the advance of the Confederates, flushed with success, marching northward with the purpose of taking Washington; the terrible defeats and retreat of the Army of Virginia; Lee's invasion of Maryland; the surrender of Harper's Ferry; the Confederate invasion of Kentucky; the repulse of the Army of the Potomac, at Fredericksburg; reverses that were offset only by McClellan's brilliant victory at Antietam and Grant's successes along the Tennessee and Mississippi Rivers. More volunteers were called for, the long troop trains continued to pass through Burlington, southward, ever southward, while the sad-faced Lincoln sat in the White House bearing upon his heart and brain the greatest burden ever imposed upon a ruler of men.

It was during these despairing days that a group of members of the Society of Friends, headed by Eliza P. Gurney, of Burlington, visited the war-worn President with assurances of their confidence in the righteousness of his purposes and of their prayers for his success. The following letter received by Mrs. Gurney from President Lincoln,

nearly two years later, is worthy of preservation and forms an interesting bit of the history of the period as it relates to Burlington.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,  
WASHINGTON, SEPTEMBER 14, 1864.

Eliza P. Gurney: My esteemed friend:

I have not forgotten—probably never shall forget—the very impressive occasion when yourself and friends visited me on a Sabbath forenoon two years ago. Nor has your kind letter, written nearly a year later, been forgotten. In all, it has been your purpose to strengthen my reliance upon God. I am much indebted to the good Christian people of the country for their constant prayers and consolations; and to no one of them more than to yourself. The purposes of the Almighty are perfect and must prevail, though we erring mortals may fail to accurately perceive them in advance. We hoped for a happy termination of this terrible war before this; but God knows best, and has ruled otherwise. We shall yet acknowledge His wisdom and our own error therein. Meanwhile we must work earnestly in the best light He gives us, trusting that so working still conduces to the great ends He ordains. Surely He intends some great good to follow this mighty convulsion, which no mortal could make and no mortal could stay.

Your people—the Friends—have had, and are having, a very great trial. On principle, and faith, opposed to both war and oppression, they can only practically oppose oppression by war. In this hard dilemma, some have chosen one how and some the other. For those appealing to me on conscientious grounds, I have done, and shall do, the best I could and can, in my own conscience, and under oath to the law. That you believe this I doubt not, and believing it, I still receive, for our country and myself, your earnest prayers to our Father in Heaven.

Your sincere friend  
A. Lincoln.

A proclamation of the Governor to organize a State Rifle Corps in 1863 met a ready response in Burlington. Within an hour one hundred and twenty men were enrolled, many of them members of the Twenty-Third Regiment,

and on September 17, 1863, the following officers were chosen; Captain, B. Loyd James; First Lieutenant, Joseph E. Taylor; Second Lieutenant, J. Wesley Goodenough; Third Lieutenant, Charles G. Milnor; First Sergeant, George W. Kempton; Second Sergeant, Frank S. Prosser; Third Sergeant, John E. Cheeseman; Fourth Sergeant, William Seed; First Corporal, Budd S. Richardson; Second Corporal, John G. Burling; Third Corporal, George W. Taylor; Fourth Corporal, Charles B. Smith. Three months later the Rifles were called out to aid in suppressing the railroad riots at Amboy. They responded in greater numbers than any other company in the State, and won praise for their performance in protecting the property of the railroad company from molestation by the mob.

Captain Miner K. Knowlton, a retired army officer who resided in the present home of Thomas I. Rogers, at Wood and West Union Streets, had been an instructor at West Point when General Grant was a cadet in that institution. Grant desired to have his family located in a quiet, safe place while he was engaged with the war. Upon Captain Knowlton's recommendation Mrs. Grant came to Burlington in September, 1864, with her four children, accompanied by her brother, Lieutenant Colonel Dent, and occupied the property 309 Wood Street, now the residence of Olin M. Slack.

The General's children became pupils at Burlington College and were often seen riding about the town on the frisky little pony their famous father sent to them from Vicksburg, Miss. They were not selfish in their pastime with the pony and permitted their playmates in the neighborhood the privilege of an occasional ride.

General Grant made his first visit to Burlington some ten days after the family became domiciled here. He came unostentatiously on a Saturday evening, about midnight, on



a special train accompanied only by an orderly. Anthony ("Tone") Smith, a member of the police force, and Harry Kelly, night operator, were the only persons on the platform when the train arrived. The General seems to have been ignorant of the location of the new family residence. He approached Smith and inquired if he knew where Mrs. Grant lived. "Tone" replied that he did, and he and Kelly escorted the two strangers to the Wood Street house. The General rapped at the door. Mrs. Grant appeared on the balcony above and asked:

"Is that you, Ulysses?"

"Yes," was the simple, quiet reply, and Mrs. Grant came down and let the General and his orderly in.

Early in the morning it became known that the hero of Vicksburg was in Burlington. The General had barely time to breakfast and light his first cigar when citizens came in squads and deputations to testify their high appreciation of his services to the country. The door of the cottage was constantly open and all who came were welcomed with the utmost cordiality. Among the visitors were a number of ladies. Some were accompanied by their children. Mrs. D. V. Holmes, of 28 West Union Street, remembers how as a little girl (Sarah Gauntt) she climbed into General Grant's lap, and when he kissed her how the sting of tobacco lingered on her lips.

As it was known that the General's stay would be short a basket of fine fruit was made up and sent to him by the hands of Thomas Milnor, who was then a little chap about six years old. On being led into the parlor where Grant was sitting young Milnor advanced undaunted, and tugging with both hands to hold up the well filled basket, exclaimed:

"Here's for the ladies, General!"

A little after 9 o'clock the special train, in which the

General was to leave at 10, rolled up to the station. There was an instantaneous rush of people from all parts of the city to be present at the leave taking and to see and greet the honored guest. By this time, too, the General's house was surrounded by another crowd of admirers and friends. Just before 10 o'clock he came out on his way to the station and was accompanied by a throng of citizens among whom were many ladies. Often, during this short walk, he was compelled to stop and respond to warm-hearted greetings.

As the General passed the residence of the late Charles Kinsey, now the Moose Home, on West Broad Street, the venerable and patriotic widow came out on the porch of the house with the Stars and Stripes in her hand and said:

"General Grant, permit me to have the honor of waving this glorious flag over your honored head."

One of the daughters added: "General, you have already done so much for us that we expect a great deal more." Grant modestly answered: "I expect from General Sherman more than any other man in the army." As the General arrived at the station and entered the car to begin his return to the seat of war he was greeted with rousing cheers.

On the fateful night when Lincoln was shot General Grant had been invited to accompany the President's party at Ford's Theatre, in Washington. A letter remains in which the General expressed his regret at being unable to accept the invitation since he and Mrs. Grant were planning to go to Burlington. It was in Captain Knowlton's residence, where General Grant was calling upon his old West Point preceptor, that he received from Washington the appalling news of the assassination of the President. The war was over; the Union had been preserved; and Lincoln, the great heart and conscience of it all was dead!

The week of October 13, 1866, was not soon forgotten by the people of Burlington. An epidemic of cholera, which had been sweeping over the country, appeared in the city, carrying off its victims so rapidly with its sudden and seemingly resistless attack that the undertakers were unable to provide coffins for the dead. Prominent among the many who succumbed to the scourge were Amos Hutchin, choir-master of Broad Street M. E. Church and superintendent of the Mission School established by the church on St. Mary Street, near Federal Street; Mrs. Charlotte H. Voute, a woman of unusual ability and one of Mr. Hutchin's assistants in the Mission School; Lewis Cutter, Thomas Boulton and Elizabeth Boulton, his wife. The visitation yielded to the vigorous and intelligent efforts made for its suppression, but in the brief time of its devastation, and in proportion to the population of the city, the violence and virulence of the disease exceeded its ravages in any other city in the country.

About this time Capt. Samuel Phillips engaged actively in the organization of a Grand Army Post which was short lived. Some time later Joseph W. Allen Post, No. 9 was organized with these officers: F. W. Milnor, Commander; L. C. Reeves, Vice Commander; Leander Brewin, Adjutant; W. A. Samson, Quartermaster. It also enjoyed but a brief existence. The veterans again got together in 1880, and on May 28th of that year Parker Grubb Post No. 16, was instituted with these officers: James L. Estilow, Commander; John I. Shinn, Vice Commander; Sheldon S. Davis, Adjutant; Thomas K. Prickett, Quartermaster; J. S. Adams, Sergeant; Wm. H. Allison, Chaplain; John Foster, Officer of the Day; Charles Q. Terry, Officer of the Guard. The Post erected a hall on Lawrence Street and maintained an active existence until a few years ago when, with the membership reduced by death to less than a score, the Post

was disbanded and the hall sold to Victor Emanuel Lodge No. 239, Sons of Italy. At one time Parker Grubb Post had an enrollment of 265. At this writing but two of its members survive: George W. Anthony, of Burlington, and George M. Sapp, of Camden, N. J.

Probably the only dramatic performance produced with proper scenery and professional players in Burlington until the Birch Opera House was built in 1877 and formally opened on Thanksgiving night of that year, was given in the City Hall in the late "sixties" by a company of Thespians calling themselves The Ocean Yacht Dramatic Company. A trim schooner yacht carried the players, properties and scenery to water front towns having no theatres or public halls equipped with scenery. The Civil War had just closed, conditions were chaotic, and business had been bad for the company.

They did unexpectedly well in Burlington but "the ghost did not walk," as actors would picturesquely phrase it when the pay envelope fails to appear, for the manager vamosed with the yacht and the coin, leaving the company stranded in Burlington. George Bloodgood, then managing the Burlington House, with other sympathizing citizens arranged a series of benefit performances by the players which enabled them to pay expenses to their homes or the nearest theatrical agency.

A deluge of rain, which was a veritable succession of water spouts for days and nights during the first week of September 1868, turned the Assiscunk Creek into a destructive torrent which tore away both bridges at Broad Street with a large part of the embankment, ripped up and floated off the wharf of the Carbon Stove Company, (now the Stuart & Peterson plant), undermining the engine house which fell into the water.

The water rose so high that it undermined the St.



Mary Street School house, damaging the north wall; ran deep over the turnpike at the head of East Federal Street, and backing up over the basin of the meadows destroyed crops on neighboring farms valued at thousands of dollars.

The old wooden bridge with its gates had long served as a causeway across the creek. Originally the only passage of the Assiscunk was by a ford a short distance west of the present bridge. As population increased and better facilities for road travel were required the ford became intolerable. The Barracks Meadow Company was incorporated with power to erect a causeway at Broad Street with sluice gates so hung as to close and keep out a freshet from the river. This protected the meadows above from overflow and increased the acreage of tillable land in the meadow basin.

The Meadow Company had ample power to tax themselves for benefits received, but no others. No public funds were appropriated to them except one hundred and fifty dollars per year contributed by the township and county so long as the road was kept up. The income from the meadow owners, to protect whom the gates had been erected, was never equal to the cost of keeping them in order. When the bridge with its gates was destroyed the Meadow Company was three thousand dollars in debt. In October following the flood, by order of town meeting, the Meadow Company's interest was purchased and only open bridges have since been constructed at Broad Street. The county replaced the old wooden bridge with an iron bridge and that structure gave way, a few years ago, to the present concrete causeway across the creek.

For many generations Burlington had a reputation, more or less deserved, for the prevalence of malaria due to areas of marsh lands west and south of the city. It became a stock topic of newspaper jokesmiths far and wide.

In 1868 Caleb G. Ridgway presented a petition in Council from numerous citizens requesting the "drainage of the low lands to prevent fever and ague." The Legislature passed an enabling act the following year. Council appointed a Drainage Commission, a pumping station was established at the Sluice and malaria no longer menaces the health of the community.

Burlington was divided into wards for the first time in 1868 under the provisions of an act of the Legislature of March 26, of that year. Broad Street was made the dividing line and two wards were created. In this same year Burlington's first and only female postmaster, Mrs. M. J. Martin, was appointed by President Grant, and held the position until her successor, Samuel E. Lippincott, was appointed by President Cleveland in 1886.

On a spring afternoon in 1868, Nathan W. C. Hays, his brother, Godfrey Hays, and George Rigg sat under the trees which shaded the lawn of the Hays homestead, discussing the needs of Burlington. The fruit of that discussion was the appearance on June 25, 1868, of the first issue of the *New Jersey Enterprise* (now the *Daily Enterprise*) from a press set up by Godfrey Hays and Christopher Magrath in the old building which then stood on the site of the present Shoenfeld store, 347 High Street.

It was a four page weekly, independent in politics, and with literary pretensions. Magrath soon became dissatisfied with the pecuniary returns. He sold his interest to Mr. Hays, who moved from the High Street office to the second story of Hamilton Hill's restaurant on West Broad Street, in the rear of the railroad station, and hoisted the Republican banner at the head of the *Enterprise*.

Mr. Hays conducted the paper until his death in 1876. Changes in management followed rapidly. William F. Leroy and his sons conducted the paper for a time. In 1877

the firm of Schermerhorn, Hand and Stiles assumed control, under the style of the Enterprise Printing Company, with W. E. Schermerhorn as Editor and Business Manager, and George W. Hand and B. Frank Stiles in charge of the mechanical work. They removed the office to the southwest corner of High and Union Streets, and the first steam power printing plant in the county was installed. Sanford S. Murphy succeeded to the ownership of the *Enterprise*, assisted by the able editorial pen of William J. Bruce whose weekly column of wit and wisdom, "Bruce's Salad," was quoted by newspapers all over the country. The paper prospered and the Enterprise Building on West Broad Street was erected. Mr. Murphy was not a newspaper man by profession. He had been the confidential secretary of A. H. McNeal. The new duties soon lost their appeal to him and he accepted an advantageous offer from James P. Logan and Eli S. Sherman.

When in 1883 D. W. P. Murphy and Harry Woodmansee came to Burlington and established Burlington's first daily newspaper, the *Evening Reporter*, the prestige of the two weekly newspapers was dimmed, and the *Enterprise* and *Burlington Gazette* were forced into the daily field. The first issue of the *Daily Enterprise* appeared on Saturday, May 17, 1884. The *Gazette* followed suit and for nearly a score of years Burlington was served by three daily papers, a condition perhaps never enjoyed by any city of its size in America. In the late nineties the *Reporter* quit the field, and a dozen years later the *Gazette* discontinued its daily issue and resumed its weekly publication.

During this period Mr. Logan purchased the interest of his partner Mr. Sherman, and moved the office to Birch's Opera House row. When he retired in the early nineties Lewis A. Craft, who had been connected with the mechanical end of the paper for many years, was placed in charge

by the new owners and the office was moved to the Sooy building on East Broad Street. In 1900, Col. Nathan Haines, President of the Enterprise Company, purchased the Enterprise building erected by Sanford S. Murphy a decade earlier, and installed the plant in its former home, with D. V. Holmes as editor.

Then George C. Gunn became active head of the *Enterprise*, assisted editorially by Robert D. Towne, at first, and later by H. D. Kibbe. For eleven years the paper enjoyed marked success, a prelude to that which was to follow.

When Mr. Gunn disposed of the plant, in 1911, I. Snowden Haines became President of the Enterprise Company. He merged its interests with the Commercial Printing Company, conducted by Joseph R. Cheesman, and his brother C. Harry Cheesman. They became identified with the Enterprise Publishing Company, and the present printing plant, the conception of C. Harry Cheesman, and one of the most perfectly equipped establishments for newspaper and all classes of commercial printing in the State was erected. The present officers and staff of the Enterprise Publishing Company are, Joseph R. Cheesman, President and Editor; W. Emory Cheesman, Vice-President and Treasurer; J. Harry Roberts, Jr., Secretary and Assistant Treasurer, and John H. Naylor, Associate Editor.



## The Period Prior to the Bi-centennial

**B**URLINGTON in the "seventies" still retained an air of antiquity and respectability that forcibly reminded visitors of the quaint attractions of an English cathedral town.

Scattered here and there all over the city were broad, low houses, with capacious rear additions of dining room and kitchen, suggesting the homelike comfort and neat housekeeping of the olden time; odd looking houses with round-transomed doors and windows; strong oaken doors, heavy brass knockers and door plates with the family names almost erased by time and frequent polishing; long tastefully arranged gardens, bordered with thrifty shrubbery planted many, many years before by somebody's ancestor. These evidences of the respect of their original owner for his English ancestry have disappeared in the years following that decade of the seventies. They might easily have stood another century.

No period in the nation's history has a blacker record than the "seventies" when the country, still suffering from the direful effect of a fratricidal war, became the prey of a horde of frenzied financiers, unscrupulous politicians and corrupt government officials. It was a period of ballooning in business and sensational adventuring in financing by Gould, Fisk, Drew, Stokes and other groups of piratical schemers. The South was suffering the ills of a shameful administration, under the Reconstruction policy of Congress, by "carpet bag" officials who were unscrupulously inciting the newly enfranchised negro to acts of insolent dominance, and the Ku Klux Klan's sheeted Knights were riding and raiding in reprisal.

Burlington, in the back water of public affairs, having no part in that story of perfidy and plunder, was reaping

the harvest of a country-wide inflation of business, and entered upon one of the most prosperous decades in her history, despite the disastrous panic of 1873.

A Burlington Exchange and Board of Trade was organized early in 1871 in the office of Franklin Woolman with Dr. J. H. Pugh, President; Nehemiah Sleeper, Secretary; Richard F. Mott, Corresponding Secretary; and Col. F. W. Milnor, Treasurer. The directors were, Edmund Morris, William R. Bishop, Nathan Haines, Dr. J. S. Adams and William Coleman. Fifty-two subscribers at ten dollars each were reported at this first meeting, and offices and a reading room were opened on High Street adjoining the present Weaver pharmacy.

Shoe factories equipped with modern machinery were established, one after another until twenty-six of them, large and small, restored to Burlington her pre-war prestige as a shoe producing center. The Carbon Stove and Heater Company had erected their large building (now the Stuart and Peterson plant) and were also occupying a building on Tatham Street near Pearl, working up into stoves, heaters and iron fence work five thousand pounds of iron daily, employing thirteen moulders and looking for more.

Charles P. Farner was manufacturing paper bags in the old Dr. Wright pill factory, on the Decker estate out on South High Street, and was turning out ten thousand bags daily. Murphy and Tillinghast, from Long Island, had leased the rear of the Market House on East Union Street, and were doing a large business manufacturing straw covers, or envelopes for bottles, to be used in packing wines and liquors, chemicals and perfumery.

A half dozen canning factories were in full operation during the summer and fall months putting up pickles, corn, tomatoes, asparagus and fruits in enormous quantities, and Burlington canned peaches were finding a market in Eng-

land. Severns & Sons had doubled the capacity of their mill, then located on West Delaware Avenue, and were furnishing thousands of crates for the canned goods packers and berry boxes and crates for the berry growers. Their output of berry boxes alone was ten thousand a day. The Burlington Terra Cotta Works had installed new and larger presses and were shipping loads of their products weekly. The Birch Factory was distributing scores of wagons, carriages and buggies to markets north, south, east and west, and John Craft was delighting the fashionable driving public with his output of beautifully finished broughams, barouches, phaetons and buggies.

John McNeal had bought fifty-five acres in East Burlington, at the junction of the creek and river, and erected his great pipe producing plant, and was building twenty houses for his employees. A year later an additional cupola increased the output to sixty tons a day, making the establishment one of the most complete of its kind in the United States.

In 1879 the National Bureau of Engraving took over the Carbon Stove Company building and with twenty or more of the most approved type presses, ten lithographic and sixty plate printing presses, bronzing machines and all the latest appliances for the production of ornamental engraving, color printing, lithography, and typographic work, employing a large number of skilled artists and workmen, were supplying a demand for their printed product throughout the United States and in foreign countries.

During the "seventies" and for a long time afterward, the town wharf was one of the busiest places in Burlington. The freight and passenger traffic afforded profitable employment for three first-class steamboats, and there was a crowd and jam and bustle at the wharf on their arrival. A half dozen first-class teams were required to deliver the

quantity of merchandise and household goods arriving daily by river transportation. The outward freight of these boats was no less important. During the trucking season the wharf would be simply overloaded with piled up baskets of all kinds of farm products the loading of which sometimes consumed an hour or more before the wharf would be cleared.

Two important movements, neither of which came to fruition until some years later, were agitating Burlington, the purchase of water works by the city and the separation of the city from the township. There was a curious lack of confidence in Council and a decided unwillingness to permit that body to have any control over the expenditure of the funds needed to obtain the old water works or to build a new plant.

A town meeting was held in June 1870, at which it was reported that the cost of erecting new works was estimated at fifty thousand dollars, and that the old works could be purchased for thirty-five thousand dollars. The town meeting authorized a committee to make that offer. An exciting controversy arose between the leaders of the town meeting as to which body knew the most about the subject, and as to which should have charge of consummating a purchase or building new works. Council called for a money election, and there it rested.

Common Council had prepared an amendment to the City Charter which the Legislature passed in March, 1871. It provided that Council should consist of twelve members to be elected annually and at the first meeting after divide themselves into two classes by lot, holding their seats for one and two years, so that six should be chosen annually. The amount to be raised by taxation was increased from seventy-five hundred dollars to twelve thousand dollars, with the proviso that Council have no power to borrow



money unless authorized by vote of town meeting. Two thousand dollars of the increased taxation was to be applied to the reduction of the city debt.

Much criticism followed. One disgruntled taxpayer relieved himself in print as follows: "It cost us sixty-seven dollars last year for killing off dogs. Our public grounds cost us ninety-four dollars and produced an income of seven dollars. Our street commissioner used up fourteen hundred and nineteen dollars and the street dirt sold produced a return of four dollars. The town wharf cost twelve hundred dollars and produced eight hundred. The Market House, which cost twenty-five thousand dollars, yielded seventy dollars and has its whole rear end in a bad way, but the clerk of the market received thirty-nine and a half dollars of the seventy."

The project of a bridge to Bristol by way of the island had been agitated for some time and early in 1871 a bill authorizing the construction of such a bridge was offered in the Legislature and was rejected. Elwood Doron, however, replaced his antique trans-river relic, the *William L. Dayton*, familiarly called the *Snapper*, with a new ferry boat, the *Elwood Doron*. The Farmers' and Mechanics' Building and Loan Association was incorporated April 1, of that year, with J. H. Parks, President; Henry S. Haines, Secretary, and Nathan Haines, Treasurer.

Early one morning in mid-May men along the river front descried a large animal aground on the flats near the mouth of the creek. Men, guns and boats were soon in pursuit and after a score of shots had been fired the stranger was captured. It proved to be a full grown Arctic seal, eight feet long, weighing five hundred and eighty pounds. For more than a week previous to the capture of the seal the shad in the river almost disappeared and the fishermen caught so few that fishing proved a losing business and the

price of the few shad caught went up to a high figure. All this time the seal had probably been swimming to and fro in the river doing his share of shad fishing and driving the shad from their accustomed runs.

In July the Hope Fire Company acquired the first steam fire engine used in Burlington from the old Hope Company of Philadelphia which disbanded and sold its equipment when the paid fire department was organized in the Quaker City. During the summer of 1871 the First Baptist Church underwent extensive and costly alterations and additions. The roof was raised six feet and the elevation of the basement and main floors was changed. The entrance front was taken out and replaced with hammered brown stone with a tower in the center sixty feet high from which a spire rose sixty feet higher. The main entrance to the church was through a door in the tower. These changes converted the old and long used edifice into one of the most beautiful church buildings in the city at that time.

Burlington was honored during the week of November 13, 1871, by a visit from the Lord Bishop of Lichfield, England, and two clerical companions, who had come to this country as delegates to the triennial convention at Baltimore. They were conducted to St. Mary's Church where a large congregation had gathered. At the conclusion of the service Bishop Odenheimer offered prayer for "Our Most Sovereign Lady," and one of the English visitors said the prayer for the President of the United States.

The winter of 1871-72 was marked by an epidemic of burglary. Scarcely a week passed without one or more private houses being broken into and robbed, or an attempt made to do so. During the fall months preceding that winter, and throughout the winter, epizooty, a disease resembling influenza, but much more severe in its visitation, raged among horses to such a degree that business was dis-

located. So many horses were disabled on the farms that produce could not be delivered in the town, and those who lived at a distance in the country were compelled to walk or remain at home. The livery stables had no horses for hire and contracts for hauling could not be kept. The city streets were noticeably quiet and the usual platoons of teams were no longer tied up in front of the stores. The grocers who handled large quantities of eggs in their business were obliged to go about into the country to procure them.

Burlington accomplished more in 1872 than in any preceding year of its history. Real estate was changing hands and the number of strangers buying and selling in the city was evidence of substantial progress and that Burlington offered some strong local attraction. At this time there was not an unoccupied house in Burlington. Before the close of the year more than one hundred houses were built, many of them handsome brick dwellings, and others for families of modest means. Old dwellings on High Street were converted into fashionable stores, a movement which has continued consistently until at this writing but six strictly private dwellings remain on High Street between the river and the railroad.

When the steamboat *Twilight* stopped at Burlington on the evening of August 14, 1872, a crowd of rowdy excursionists from Philadelphia came ashore and gathered around a wagon load of peaches on the wharf. When they began helping themselves the farmer who owned the fruit demanded payment. He was knocked down. Then followed a general fight between citizens and the rowdies, the latter ammunitioned with a large quantity of paving stones brought down from Florence for attack on the river towns. The unarmed Burlington men retreated when these were hurled. This drew the marauders some distance up High Street where one of them was captured and held prisoner.

In front of the Steamboat Hotel the invaders were roughly handled by the large crowd of citizens who had gathered. They retreated to the wharf amid a shower of the same stones first thrown by them, and began pistol firing. But the volley of stones hurled by the enraged citizens, headed by Mayor Henry Moffet, drove the rowdies on board the boat, which was severely damaged before it could cast off and move down the river with its load of badly battered passengers, one of whom lost an eye. A cake and refreshment stand kept on the wharf by old Robert Marlin was destroyed and his stock stolen. He was so overcome with fright that an attack of apoplexy supervened and he died that night.

These were the days when the country was infested with tramps, idle, drunken, lazy nomads, ready to commit any crime. They swarmed the public roads and lay about in shady places beneath the trees in the streets of the city, a terror to the timid and a pest to the police. In one week the following outrages occurred.

Three tramps attacked a young woman on the Beverly Road, criminally assaulted her, and beat her into unconsciousness with a stone, pounding her face into an unrecognizable condition and loosening her teeth. She lay all night in the road in this condition. When discovered one of the tramps was lying near by in a drunken stupor. Tramps attacked a man and his wife who were picking pears in the outskirts of the city, beating them into insensibility and stripping the woman of her clothes. Another party of tramps stopped a woman on the road and disrobed her completely. Two tramps went into Allinson's drug store (now the Weaver Pharmacy) and demanded whisky. John Miller, the clerk, refused to sell it. One of the tramps drew a dirk knife and threatened to stab Miller unless he furnished the liquor. But John had a six-shooter within reach.



He covered the dangerous pair with it and ordered them out of the store. They went.

Householders were annoyed and timid women were terrified by these nomads appearing at the back door almost daily with demands for food. A tramp entered the kitchen of one residence and asked the cook for something to eat. When told there was nothing for him he became so boisterous that the lady of the house hastened to the kitchen. She corroborated the cook. The tramp retorted, "I see a piece of meat in the oven; give me that." He was told it was not done yet. "Well, I'll call again," he said. At one o'clock he again entered the kitchen and asked for the piece of meat. Upon being told that it was for the family dinner and that he could not have it he knocked the cook down and made off with the piece of meat. All this in one week.

Council had provided in its budget for 1872 the sum of two thousand dollars to be invested in a gravel lot, and the disreputable dirt roads in Burlington began to change from mud puddles into decent roadways. Curious things were turned up in the task of grading and digging in and about Burlington at that time.

Workmen grading High Street uncovered an old cornerstone which had been placed opposite the site of the present City Hall so long before that no tradition remained as to who planted it there or for what purpose. S. B. K. Coles, digging a cellar for a house on York Street, discovered an enormous block of granite seven feet long and six feet wide estimated to weigh seven tons. There was no way of getting it out and it was buried where some future generation may dig it up and wonder about it. Another huge stone of like character was struck in digging out the City Ditch. It was so large as to be immovable and caused a change in the direction of the ditch. These two stones were not boulders. It was agreed by wiseacres that they must have

been brought here in the glacial period by some great iceberg when it moved from the granite foundation on which it was formed. Reaching a milder climate the iceberg dissolved and deposited the stones where they were found.

The parochial school founded by Rev. Courtlandt Van Rensselaer and taken over by the Session of the Presbyterian Church in 1853, had been continuously prosperous and, in 1875, a new building was erected for it adjoining the rear of the church on Pearl Street. It was then named Van Rensselaer Seminary and entered upon a notable career as a high grade preparatory school, with Miss Helen M. Freeman as principal and Miss S. L. Rule as associate principal.

Interest in aquatic sports, long a feature of river front life, was heightened when the Oneida Boat Club organized on June 6, 1873, with D. G. Walker, President. There were but ten members of the club at its inception but the Oneidas became popular, membership increased and in less than three years the present well appointed boat house was erected and dedicated with appropriate ceremonies on March 4, 1876. In the meantime the Falcon Boat Club, the nucleus of which was composed of employes of Severns & Sons Mill, had been organized and canoe races between the two rival local clubs, and frequent regattas in which University of Pennsylvania crews and others equally prominent engaged, continued for many years to be the outstanding sporting events of the summer months.

In February of 1876 high winds prevailed the entire month, roughening the surface of the river continuously with foam crested waves. These, lashing the lower end of the island, washed away a portion of the shore and unearthed the bones of a number of Indians buried there two centuries before. Decorative chains were found around the necks of the skeletons and by the side of each were the pipes that had been buried with them.

Interest in the water question had not subsided entirely during the six years following the public discussion at the town meeting of June 1870. While there was divided opinion concerning ways and means, conviction had grown that the service rendered by the Burlington Water Company was inadequate to the needs of the city, particularly for protection against fire, and that relief could be found only in a city-owned water works.

In April 1876 proponents of the plan had an enabling act passed by the Legislature authorizing the city to buy or build water works when the act should be adopted by a vote of the people. This was done at a special election held on May 26, 1876. The business of bargaining with the Water Company began. Twenty thousand dollars was offered for the old works. The Water Company declined it. Finally the fixing of the price was referred to five disinterested persons, two to be chosen by the Water Company, two by Council, and these four to choose a fifth. For six months there was failure to consummate an agreement with the Water Company and Council, at its December meeting, adopted a resolution calling for sealed proposals for the erection of a stand pipe and works for supplying the city with water. Then Burlington was visited by the most disastrous conflagration in its history.

A few minutes after two o'clock on a Sunday morning, December 8, 1876, Edward Rigg's stable in the rear of the railroad station was discovered to be on fire, and the flames communicated with the adjoining stable of Emerson English. The wind was blowing a gale and carried large blazing embers long distances. The roof of the Coffee House, (now the Alcazar Hotel) and the wagon sheds in the adjacent yard were ignited. The residence of James H. Birch, two houses at the angle of Library Street, and a house on Mechanic Street were soon ablaze and were

entirely destroyed. The conflagration threatened to sweep its way to the creek.

The residents of Lawrence Street and York Street mounted to their roofs and in an icy gale, with the temperature but eight degrees above zero, fought the sparks which fell in showers. Lawrence Street escaped, but the houses on the West side of York street, from Broad Street to Clarkson Street, were doomed.

The firemen, handicapped by a meagre water supply, which was lessened by frozen fire hydrants and freezing of fire apparatus, worked heroically until they were literally encased in ice and many had their hands and feet frozen. It seemed like a despairing duel until help summoned from Camden and Trenton arrived with fire apparatus, and the dwelling of Daniel Dougherty at Clarkson Street was torn down. This, with the lessening of the gale, checked the progress of the flames, but not until twenty-six houses were in ruins when daylight dawned, and their occupants, clad only in scant raiment, hastily donned, were without shelter.

The generosity of the people of Burlington has never been more favorably displayed than on this occasion. Before noon of that fateful Sunday all of the nearly thirty families made homeless by the fire were comfortably housed, and their needs were met with unparalleled liberality. A conservative estimate of the loss placed it at sixty thousand dollars.

This disaster awakened the entire community to the need for prompt action. A money election was held on Tuesday, December 26, 1876, and by an almost unanimous vote Council was authorized to make a bond issue for the purchase or erection of water works. The Burlington Water Company's plant was acquired by the city for the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars, formal possession was



taken on March 22, 1877, and Council appointed the following Board of Water Commissioners; Caleb G. Ridgeway, President; Henry S. Haines, Secretary; Richard F. Mott, James O'Neill and Alexander Martin.

But the Burlington water fight was not finished. Extension and improvement of the water plant was necessary. On recommendation of the Water Committee of Council a contract was awarded to Andrew O'Neill to furnish and lay new water mains of greater capacity. O'Neill had come to Burlington some months before as the inventor of a patent joint for connecting water mains and his device was being tested at the McNeal Pipe Foundry. He opened an office on West Union Street and his bid was made under the name of the O'Neill Pipe Laying Company. There was no knowledge or evidence of the existence of such an industrial concern.

There were rumors that the recommendation of the Water Committee had not come with clean hands and Council divided six to six on the question of accepting O'Neill's bond. Stormy times followed. O'Neill's adherents contended that in answer to advertisements for proposals he had filed his bid; that he had ample facilities for doing the work; and that the contract had been awarded to him fairly as the lowest bidder. It was claimed by O'Neill's opponents that he intended to "farm out" the contract; that he was an irresponsible middleman having no plant of his own; that the award of the contract was illegal because of a deficiency of public notice given before the contract was awarded. Alexander Martin, a former Philadelphia alderman, made the novel proposal to vacate his seat in Council if one of the opposing members would resign, the two vacancies to be filled by a special election, as the business of the city had been kept at a standstill by the deadlock on the water question. His offer was not accepted.

The controversy continued for months. Town meetings were held without avail. Council meetings were turbulent sessions. On one occasion Councilmanic debate reached a climax of angry altercation and ugly personal references. Sinister charges and counter charges were made and partisan feeling among the spectators was stirred to a passionate pitch. As the members of Council passed through the excited throng on adjournment, Andrew O'Neill, the bone of contention, incensed beyond control, blocked the passage of Councilman William H. Kimball with a drawn revolver.

One of O'Neill's cool headed friends deftly disarmed him, the revolver was quickly passed from hand to hand, and when O'Neill was haled before Justice George Rigg no weapon could be found. Denial was made that one had been displayed and O'Neill was discharged from custody. The controversy was finally carried into court. The citizenship of Councilman Joseph R. Flanigan, who had removed from Burlington to Philadelphia, was attacked. At the instance of Councilman William H. Kimball a writ of *quo warranto* was issued requiring Flanigan to show cause for continuing his seat in Council.

With the deadlock in the Councilmanic body broken there remained the award of the contract to O'Neill. Resort was again made to the courts, this time to procure an order vacating the action of Council in awarding the contract. The court complied and Council again advertised for proposals for laying the water mains. R. D. Wood & Co., of Florence, N. J., were the successful bidders. In 1879 the long needed extension of the water plant was completed and Burlington acquired an adequate supply of water for potable uses and fire protection.

One of the outstanding events of the year 1877 was the erection of a properly constructed and equipped theatre by James H. Birch, Sr., who began the operation by throwing

the first shovel full of dirt dug for the trench of the foundation wall. On Thanksgiving night, Nov. 29th, of that year, the Birch Opera House was opened to the public with dedicatory ceremonies which included the reading of congratulatory resolutions by R. B. Carter and a brief address of acknowledgment by Mr. Birch, followed by the performance of a double bill, the tragedy of "Lucretia Borgia," and the laughable afterpiece, "The Toodles," produced by the Wheatley Dramatic Co., of Philadelphia, whose manager was Daniel W. Farrow, a former Burlington boy.

For two score years the Birch Theatre remained the home of the drama in Burlington. It became endeared to a large circle of famous actors who spoke of their appearance here with peculiar pride when this old playhouse became unique in theatrical history as the oldest theatre in America still owned by the man who built it.

On the walls of the dressing rooms their names may still be seen, written by themselves. Among the famous old time attractions and noted stars that have appeared in the Birch Opera House are Gilmore's Band, Nellie McHenry, Annie Pixley, Herman the Great, John and Harry Kernell, Minnie Palmer, Josh Billings, Dan Sully, Frank Doane, Niles, Evans, Bryant & Hoey, with the French sisters; C. W. Couldock, Kate Claxton, Ada Gray, Tony Pastor, Alvin Joslin, Jules Levy's Band, Col. W. F. Cody (Buffalo Bill), Annie Hart, Queenie Vassar, W. E. Sheridan, William Norris, Oliver Doud Byron, Pat Rooney, John L. Sullivan, Thatcher, Primrose & West, Callen, Haley & Callen, Capt. Jack Crawford, McIntyre & Heath, Tyrone Power, John L. Carncross, Katie Rooney, Matthews & Bulger, Tony Denier, Rose Stahl, Marie Cahill, Annie Mack Berlin, Gus Williams, J. C. (Fatty) Stewart, Neil Burgess, who produced here his Great County Fair, with the wonderful race track apparatus, invented by him and used later with thrill-

ling effect in "Ben Hur"; Janauschek, in her declining years; George Cohan, when as a boy in knee pants he played here with his father, mother and sister Josephine; and all of the Frohman attractions when Charles, Daniel and Gustave were associated together.

The advent of the screen drama caught the fickle fancy of the amusement loving public, the spoken drama was less frequently offered and this old theatre closed its doors for a time. A few years ago it was reopened as a moving picture house, and is now leased by the Stanley Theatre Company of America for that purpose.

Burlington was well along in the two hundredth year of her existence when, in June 1877 a thoughtful citizen called attention to that impressive fact in a communication published in the *Burlington Gazette*, and suggested that plans be made for observing the city's bi-centennial anniversary with suitable ceremonies.

The Burlington Exchange and Board of Trade took the matter up at its meeting in July and appointed the following committee of arrangements: Dr. J. Howard Pugh, Col. F. W. Milnor, Franklin Woolman, C. Ross Grubb, Dr. L. Van Rensselaer, Samuel W. Taylor, Richard F. Mott, Charles E. Allen, William G. Taylor, Nehemiah Sleeper, Gen. E. Burd Grubb, Dr. Franklin Gauntt, Nathan Haines, Caleb G. Ridgway, James O. Glasgow, Dr. J. S. Adams, George I. Miller, Rowland J. Dutton, Alexander Van Rensselaer, and Robert B. Carter. A communication was addressed to the Common Council and that body appointed Alexander Martin, Dr. Joseph Parrish, James Willitts, Philip F. Silpath, Jr., and John A. Vandegrift to act with the committee of arrangements of the Board of Trade. A permanent organization of the joint committee was effected by the election of the following officers: President, Dr. J. Howard Pugh; Vice President, Caleb G.



Ridgway; Secretary, Nehemiah Sleeper; Corresponding Secretary, James O. Glasgow; Treasurer, James O'Neill; December 6th was fixed upon as the day of the celebration.

On the appointed day sunrise was ushered in by a salute of one hundred guns, and the ringing of the bells of the city. At intervals throughout the day the chimes of St. Mary's filled the air with their melody. The entire city wore a holiday garb. The stars and stripes and flags of all nations were displayed on stores and dwellings. As the hour arrived for the parade to form the streets were filled with the city's residents and visitors from surrounding towns.

At three o'clock in the afternoon the formal exercises of the day were held in the Birch Opera House. On the stage were seated Bishops Odenheimer and Scarborough, Vicar General George W. Doane, the clergymen of the city, Ex-Governors Parker and Newell, Senators Ward and Ridgway, Congressman J. Howard Pugh, Mayor McDowell, members of Common Council and other invited guests. The exercises began with prayer by Bishop Odenheimer. A musical program was presented and Congressman Pugh, who presided, made an appropriate address introducing Henry Armitt Brown as the orator of the day, declaring that Burlington claimed Mr. Brown because many of his youthful days were spent here.

Mr. Brown's oration has become a classic. It sketched in a graphic manner the condition of affairs in England during the reign of Charles the Second and the growth of desire for religious freedom because of the persecution the Society of Friends suffered; their departure from England; their arrival in America; and the hardships and privations of pioneer life in the unbroken wilderness. Coming down to later days Mr. Brown referred in glowing terms to the sons of Burlington, and concluded with a peroration which is in itself an oration.

## The Last Fifty Years

**T**HE half century since the Bi-centennial celebration of 1877 has brought marked changes to Burlington — changes in its appearance, in its social atmosphere and in its industries.

Nearly all of the pre-Revolutionary characteristics, the ancient dwellings whose traditions enshrine the past and enrich the present, have disappeared with the march of modern improvement, and the quaint little old-fashioned shops on High Street and Broad Street have given place to statelier stores. The old families whose names linked Burlington with the days of its simpler life have either died off or removed to other parts, and not many of their descendants are to be found among the present population. The shoe factories and canning establishments which were the back bone of Burlington's productive industry are gone, and but four of the manufacturing establishments operating in Burlington prior to 1877 now remain among the city's industries.

Burlington has expanded in residential area and in population. The districts east of the creek, westwardly down the Beverly Road, and southwardly to Springside, so sparsely settled not many years ago, are now well built up sections of the city, and Farnerville is a thriving new suburb of several hundred houses. A half century ago Burlington was divided into but two wards with four voting precincts. At that time the city had a registration of something over fourteen hundred and a population of something less than eight thousand. Under an act of the Legislature of 1875-76 providing for the division of any ward having more than six hundred voters, Council appointed a committee to divide the city into four wards each of which was a voting district.

Burlington is still divided into four wards, but there are ten voting precincts with a registration, in 1927, of five thousand and twenty-six. The figures indicate that a fair enumeration would fix Burlington's population at thirteen thousand souls.

Contributory factors in this development have been the coming of the telephone, electric lighting, the trolley lines, improved water supply, diversified and amplified industries, and a finely organized, well equipped public school system, as well as Burlington's location between the two great metropolitan cities, Philadelphia and New York, with nearness to bases of supplies, and rail and water shipping facilities.

Burlington acquired telephone connection in 1883 when the Delaware and Atlantic Telegraph and Telephone Company ran its lines through the city. The company established its central office in Burlington in 1898.

Electric lighting for Burlington was assured when the Electric Light and Power Company organized October 8, 1886, with these officers: R. Frank Wood, President; G. W. Lewis, Vice-President; Howard Flanders, Secretary and Treasurer; and these directors: Nathan Haines, Thomas Daniels, George A. Allinson, J. Frank Budd, and James O. Glasgow. Works were erected on Stacy Street. The commercial line went into service on Monday, February 19, 1889, and the municipal line the following Monday. In the spring of 1894 arc lights were introduced for street lighting.

Trolley transportation came in 1901. Council granted a franchise on February 28, 1899, and the freeholders followed a week later. Within two years the Camden and Trenton Railway Company (taken over since by the Public Service Company) had the road equipped, and in 1903 the People's Transportation Line from Burlington to Mount Holly (for which a bus service has since been substituted) was also in operation. In the meantime the old steam road

between Burlington and the county seat had been abandoned.

The separation of the city from the township had been discussed since 1881 when Council appointed a committee to look into the matter. This committee, Dr. E. S. Lansing, D. G. Walker and Shippen Wallace, recommended that the city be divided from the township, or the city line be extended to the township boundary, residents of the section not benefited by paved streets, lights and fire protection to pay only a suburban tax. The committee was discharged and no further action was taken. Twelve years later, on February 10, 1893, a town meeting was held in the Birch Opera House and a resolution was adopted that "the citizens are determined to assert their independence of any and all other municipal authority." The representatives of the county in the Legislature were requested to use their endeavors to secure approval of a bill then pending defining the rights of the city. Opposition to the movement came from both residents of the city and the farmers of the township. Counter legislation was attempted. The question was discussed at a town meeting a year later, and again at the town meeting of March 1895 when it was decided to accept the provisions of House Bill No. 193 adopted in the session of 1894-95 providing for the separation of the city from the township.

On two occasions during the last fifty years, Burlington has been visited by floods which have made the site of the city, for days at a time, much more an island than it was when the first settlers found it bearing the name of Chygoes Island. The first occasion was on Sunday, February 11, 1881, when a flood cut off all travel to and from the outside world save by batteau and canoe. An ice jam which backed up the waters of the upper river had broken up and the released torrent of water and broken ice met an unusually



heavy tide. The ice on the Pennsylvania side clung to the shore tightly. This thrust the main channel over to the Jersey shore and a high northwest gale did the rest.

Down at Delanco, in the angle formed by the Delaware River and Rancocas Creek, there arose a cross current contest between the two streams. The floating ice was held for several hours, banked up in a huge wall until tide and wind combined to carry it up the river. Huge cakes of ice, large enough to cover an ordinary floor, leaped over and under like so many dolphins, and were flung almost a hundred feet inland all along the river front, and were piled up on the town wharf to its roof.

Meanwhile the creek overflowed its banks. The Mount Holly railroad bridge was covered. The flood found its way over the Jacksonville Turnpike, rushed along it into Federal Street, out into York Street and Stacy Street towards the river, and back up the "pike" to the railroad track, filling the adjacent meadows and low lands; crossed the Salem Road and swept over London Bridge seeking a lowest level, thus making Burlington once more an island. C. Ross Grubb's yacht, moored in the Assiscunk, was lifted high and dry beyond the Mount Holly railroad track. The bridge at Pearl Street was pushed from its place and lay a worthless wreck below the Broad Street Bridge. The bridge at the Sluice was also dislodged. A train of cars, loaded with sand to hold it down, kept the Mount Holly railroad bridge in place.

By four o'clock Sunday afternoon the water had swept in beyond the Gas House, flooded out the fires and threatened to float the gas container off down to the Sluice. By Monday the gas in the reservoir was exhausted. A representative of the gas company went through the streets crying the mournful tidings, "No gas to-night! No gas to-night!" Then began a hurried search for the discarded

kerosene lamp, the despised candlestick and the forgotten sconce of grandmother's time. These were dragged from their dishonored places of disposal and welcomed gladly.

The stock of kerosene oil in the town was limited. Within two hours its price went kiting and was soon rivaled by the soaring quotations for the fast disappearing stock of tallow dips. By Tuesday wind and tide subsided. The trespassing waters went their accustomed way, and the city and the country were happily reunited.

Twenty-two years later Burlington was again marooned from the world at large. Heavy rainfalls, beginning on Monday, October 5, 1903, continued for the entire week. By Saturday, the 10th, the river had risen beyond its bounds. It flooded all the north front of the city as far up as Union Street. It broke through the Sluice bank and swept over the low lands in the west and southwest suburbs. The swollen creek, seeping into and washing over the Jacksonville Road, wore great gaps in the embankment. The released waters of the creek joined those that flowed in from the river at the Sluice, and the vast lake thus formed lapped its way into the streets of the city.

When the water reached its highest mark, at 8 o'clock on Sunday evening, October 11th, the High Street entrance of the Beldin House (now Metropolitan Inn) and hundreds of dwellings in East Burlington, South Burlington and West Burlington, whose occupants had sought safety on the second floor, could be approached only by boats. Mayor Charles Y. Flanders promptly established relief stations. Physicians and needed supplies of food and medicine were conveyed to these marooned families by boatmen who also succored those desiring to abandon their water-logged homes. The waters began subsiding Sunday night. On Monday they had nearly reached their usual level. Much

damage resulted from the weakened foundations of the dwellings in the flooded area.

Burlington has been snowbound for a period of days by blizzards on two occasions within the memory of those still living. Sunday evening, March 11, 1888, closed in with a warm rainfall. In the night an Arctic gale turned the rain to snow and by morning railroad and wagon roads were completely blocked by drifted banks of an eighteen-inch snowfall, and the storm was still raging. It was not until Wednesday that communication with the outside world by transportation was satisfactorily established. In February, eleven years later, a snow storm accompanied by a piercingly cold high wind began on a Saturday night, continued all day Sunday and Monday, and Burlington was again closed in for three days.

Antagonism between this city and the railroad company has developed during the last half century. Back in 1883 Council took up the matter of protected crossings at the railroad. The company refused to place flagmen or a system of electric alarms and notified Council if it wanted to force the fight it might do so and compel the removal of the road. This challenge by the company occupied much attention and in 1884 Councilmen were interviewing Colonel Buckalew, the general manager, concerning the removal of the track or the protection of crossings. The Colonel said that he had no power and referred Council to the Board of Directors of the company. Nothing ensued.

The railroad company had long desired a double track through Broad Street to facilitate movement of trains. Consent of city authorities to this was hopeless. The company adopted a bolder plan. On a morning in the early summer of 1895 the city awoke to find a gang of railroad track layers placing a second set of rails on Broad Street, from the bridge westward. Excitement followed. Protests

by residents of Broad Street and city authorities did not halt the workmen. One courageous woman placed a chair directly in the line of the proposed second track, seated herself and defied the tracklayers to remove her. Councilman Samuel W. Semple hurried to Camden and procured a temporary injunction against the railroad company, and the case went into the courts.

City Attorney Alfred Flanders gained an opinion from Vice Chancellor Bird in 1896 that the railroad company had no right under its charter, and the agreement made with the city when that charter was granted, to construct the threatened second track and he ordered that the preliminary order to show cause be made absolute. The case was settled in 1897 when Vice Chancellor Reed filed an opinion adverse to the right of the railroad company to lay a second track, and a mandatory order to remove the portion already laid.

A corollary to these events was the action of Council in 1926 ordering the removal of the present track from Broad Street. Demands for greater privileges than the railroad company now enjoys in its route through Burlington were made and threats to "dead end" the city if Council succeeded in having the tracks removed. When legal action was taken by the city the railroad company won a decision in the Circuit Court confirming their right to the use of Broad Street. The city carried the case to the Court of Errors and Appeals. A decision was to have been rendered in April 1927 but the railroad company requested postponement. The outcome is problematical.

The most disastrous conflagration since the great fire of December 8, 1876, occurred on the night of September 7, 1892, destroying the Budd shoe factory, the row of houses on the west side and two houses on the east side of Dilwyn Street, and the dwelling of John S. Porter on the corner of



Penn and Dilwyn Streets. Nine families were made homeless.

An intelligent movement for permanent street improvement was made early in the last half century when Councilman George H. Allen presented an ordinance, in 1886, which specified paving with Belgian blocks or some other durable and desirable road material, the city to pay one half the expense and the abutting property owners the other one-half. It was not until 1895, however, that the first attempt at permanent street paving was made. Asphalt blocks were laid on East Union Street, West Union Street was improved in like manner soon after, West Pearl Street was paved with vitrified bricks and East Pearl Street with asphalt blocks. These asphalt block roadways have been covered, in recent years, with sheet asphalt, High Street has been surfaced with the same material, East Federal Street and a part of West Federal Street have permanent roadways and nearly all of the remaining streets have been treated with crushed stone and tarvia.

Two war periods, and the activities they occasioned, stand out in the history of the last generation. The Spanish American War in 1898-99 saw Co. A of the Sixth New Jersey National Guards march away from Burlington at the call of President McKinley. Daniel B. Shinn, who died in the concentration camp in Georgia, was the only casualty. When the United States entered the World War in April 1917 one hundred and forty-two men enlisted over night and followed Captain E. B. Stone to France, where they covered themselves with glory. The conscription act took other hundreds until nearly five hundred Burlington men were finally in the service of the country. During those fateful years of 1917-1918, when homes were filled with mourning for sons who had fallen in battle, Burlington was given whole heartedly to war work. Successful Liberty

Loan drives were made and the activities of the Red Cross Society and Civilian Relief Committee were unceasing. The months of October and November 1918 were made memorable by a visitation of epidemic influenza. Many lives were saved by the attention and nursing provided by the Red Cross and Civilian Relief League and the opportune convenience of an emergency hospital which had been outfitted by the League in St. Mary's Guild House for war needs in 1917.

Burlington Island became an amusement park in 1900. It began as a hobby of Mr. Bougher, of the Paxson, Bougher Sand Company, the owners of the lower half of the island at the time. He had seen a little amusement park in California which struck his fancy and he cherished an ambition to have one like it. In 1917 the firm of Merkel and Bassler acquired the island property and made concessions for more important amusement features until Burlington Island Park, or Island Beach, as it is now known, is a highly popular recreation resort.

Common Council at its meeting of December 31, 1915, adopted a city flag and city colors. The flag was designed and presented to the city by Councilman I. Snowden Haines, and Council made it official by the following action:

"RESOLVED: That the flag presented by I. Snowden Haines be accepted and that it be adopted and known as the official City Flag; and further,

RESOLVED: That to make it a matter of record the official City Flag be described as follows: a fac simile of the City Seal in brown on a white background in the center of a field of continental buff with the name 'Burlington,' and the figures of year '1677' under the Seal; and further,

RESOLVED: That the official City colors be buff and brown."

Early in 1926 Mayor Thomas S. Mooney appointed

a general committee of ninety citizens representing the various interests in Burlington to make plans for a proper celebration of the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the arrival of the first settlers in 1677. Mayor Mooney was made general chairman; Henry A. Brown and W. E. Schermerhorn, Vice Chairmen; W. Edward Ridgway, Treasurer; David B. Robb, Assistant Treasurer. The Chamber of Commerce tendered the services of its secretary, Noble Waggoner, as secretary of the committee.

An executive committee consisting of Henry A. Brown, Walter E. Robb, Cooper H. Prickitt, W. E. Schermerhorn, Robert Turner, W. Edward Ridgway and David B. Robb, with Mayor Mooney as chairman, was chosen to arrange the details of a celebration. A four day program was planned: Religious Day, Sunday, October 9, Rev. Millard O. Peirce, chairman; Sports Day, Monday, October 10th, John H. Naylor, chairman; Civic Day, Tuesday, October 11th, J. Arthur Lowden, chairman; Military Day, Wednesday, October 12th, Col. E. B. Stone, chairman. Upon request from the Burlington County Agricultural Society, a fifth day, Agricultural Day, Thursday, October 13, with T. Sherman Borden, chairman, was added to the program. Common Council appropriated seventy-five hundred dollars to finance the celebration and the State made an appropriation of five thousand dollars for the expenses of Military Day.

A preliminary to this important celebration was the dedication of a memorial tablet at the landing place of the ship *Shield*, on the river bank under the auspices of the New Jersey Society of Colonial Wars, on Saturday, May 7, 1927. The tablet was placed on the face of a huge stone which had been dug out of the river bed and mounted on a foundation of smaller unfinished stones under the ancient sycamore tree to which the *Shield*, the first immigrant

ship to come this far up the Delaware, was moored on October 10, 1678. The plot on which the memorial stands was deeded to the New Jersey Society of Colonial Wars by C. Ross Grubb.

The ceremonies opened with an invocation by Rev. John Talbot Ward, rector of St. Mary's Church. George de Benneville Keim, of Edgewater Park, Deputy Governor of the Society, in a brief address explained how the memorial came to be erected. Robert Turner presented the deed in behalf of Mr. Grubb. A dedicatory address was made by Robert Boyd, Jr., of Montclair, N. J., former Governor of the Society. The memorial was unveiled by Mrs. E. Burd Grubb and Miss Violet D. Grubb, widow and daughter of General E. Burd Grubb, one of the first Governors of the New Jersey Society of Colonial Wars. The stone was accepted in behalf of the city of Burlington by Harold V. Holmes, President of Common Council. Col. Franklin D'Olier, the first commander of the American Legion and a descendant of early settlers of Burlington, made the concluding address.

Other events in Burlington, during the last half century, worthy of mention are the opening of the Jacksonville and the Beverly turnpikes to the public in the eighties; the creation of Odd Fellows Cemetery by Burlington Lodge No. 22, I. O. O. F. early in the nineties; the development of the public school system by the expenditure of nearly half a million dollars for properly planned and equipped school buildings; the improvement of the water works by the introduction of an efficient filtering plant in 1897; the founding of the Burlington County Home for Aged Women in 1896; the founding of the Masonic Home, which was dedicated with imposing ceremonies June 24, 1898, attracting thousands of visitors from all parts of New Jersey and from adjacent States; the building of the Auditorium Theatre in



1901-03; the remodeling of the City Hall in 1910; the building of the new First Baptist Church in 1912; the purchase of the Sewerage System by the City in 1921; the organization of the Chamber of Commerce in the same year, and the Kiwanis Club two years later; the erection of the World War Memorial Hall and bronze statue by popular subscription in 1923 in grateful remembrance of the services of Burlington's sons in the World War; the completion of the State Highway through Burlington in 1923-24, and the stimulation to building activity which followed in that section of the city; the erection of the new church edifice at Union and St. Mary Street by St. Pauls R. C. Parish in 1925-26, the new Mechanics Bank building in 1926-27, the Armory of Co. K, N. G. N. J., in the same period, and the new bank building of the Burlington City Loan and Trust Company in 1927.

Burlington has advanced rapidly within the last quarter of a century. It is closing its two hundred and fiftieth year with assurance of a completed project which will promote greater growth.

More than half a century ago trans-river communication by ferry was found inadequate. A bill was introduced in the Legislature, in the early seventies, authorizing the construction of a bridge by way of the island. It was rejected. But the thought remained. When the late A. H. McNeal erected the Standard Cast Iron Pipe and Foundry Company plant, near Bristol, (which during the World War became the Harriman ship yard), he laid plans for a Burlington-Bristol bridge. Mr. McNeal died and the bridge project with him.

Then the *Daily Enterprise*, of Burlington, began a vigorous campaign in behalf of a bridge. Assemblyman Clifford R. Powell induced the Legislature of 1924-25 to pass a bill appropriating money for a survey of a bridge site.

The Harriman Company became interested, and Joseph R. Cheesman, President of the Enterprise Publishing Company, was selected for the responsible position of sponsor for New Jersey for the bridge. His duties were arduous.

Congress must be convinced that a bridge was vitally necessary to the prosperity of Burlington and Bristol and the large extent of territory adjacent to the two towns; the schemes of designing men, bent on defeating the movement begun at Burlington, must be outwitted; the War Department must be assured that the bridge would not interfere with navigation.

Mr. Cheesman devoted himself enthusiastically to this task, and Mayor Clifford L. Anderson, of Bristol, became associated with him as sponsor for Pennsylvania. Congress passed the needed enactment and it was signed by President Coolidge. Plans for a two-draw bridge with a causeway across the island were prepared and submitted to the War Department. The expectation of an early completion of the Delaware River link of the inland waterway had made it more difficult to meet the War Department's requirements. Approval was contingent upon certain changes in the plan of construction which will enable the largest sea-going vessels to pass unhindered.

When this is done the War Department will be satisfied and the bridge will be built. All of the promises made by the pioneer settlers of Burlington to their friends across the sea have not yet been fulfilled, but it is safe to assume that they will be when the inland waterway passes by Burlington's door and the bridge links up the broad acres of New Jersey and Pennsylvania at this point.

## Burlington in Religion

THE English Quakers, who came to the shores of the Delaware in 1677 that they might enjoy liberty of conscience and freedom of worship denied to them in their home land, did not long delay the exercise of that inalienable right. Before properly housing themselves they prepared a shelter for religious gatherings. A tent, fashioned from a sail of the ship, was the primitive place of worship of these God-fearing people.

As houses were built meetings were held in the homes of the members. The earliest recorded minute among the valuable manuscripts of the Burlington Monthly Meeting runs in this wise: "Since, by the good providence of God, many Friends with their families have transported themselves into this province of West Jersey, the said Friends in these upper parts have found it needful, according to the practice in the place we came from, to suite Monthly Meetings for the well ordering of the affairs of the church; it was agreed that accordingly it should be done, and accordingly it was done, the 15th of 5 mo. 1678."

The first Yearly Meeting was held in the house of Thomas Gardiner, now 228 High Street, on the 28th of 6 mo. 1681, where the meeting continued to be held for some time. Proceedings were begun for a proper meeting house as early as 1682. Subscriptions to the amount of one hundred and thirty-two pounds, sixteen shillings had been raised and the contract for the building was given to Francis Collings. The minute of 5 of 12 mo. 1682 records: "It is ordered that a meeting house be built according to a draught of forty feet square from out to out for which he is to have 160 £, which ye meeting engageth to see ye Persons paid that shall disburse ye same to Francis Collings."

An amusing episode is revealed in the record of this period of construction. It indicates that the contractor delayed the work because plans of his own for his marriage to Mary Gosling absorbed his attention. The Meeting "thought fit that John Budd should oversee the working of the meeting house which belongs to Francis Collings to be performed." Francis and Mary were married and the building proceeded without further delay.

The first meeting house was a frame structure, hexagonal in form, with a steep pitched roof surmounted by a cupola shaped like the building. It stood just behind the great twin sycamores which, still vigorous after two centuries of growth, may be seen in the rear of the present meeting house on High Street. This building served excellently for summer services. No provision for heating had been made and it was unfit for winter use. Until this was remedied the meeting was held for a time in the homes of the members. Then a frame dwelling at the corner of Broad and Stacy Streets (the site of the present Baptist Church) was purchased and converted into a place of meeting to be used when the weather was inclement. It was a common custom for delicate persons to carry with them, in cold weather, the now almost forgotten foot stoves that a stay in a cold room might be endured. Finally a brick addition was made to the hexagonal meeting house, with a huge open fireplace upon which an enormous wood fire blazed and heated the entire building.

Original ownership of a portion of the land upon which the meeting house was erected seems to have been vested in Bridget Guy, who with her husband, Richard Guy, came over with Fenwick's colony and settled at Salem. They removed later to Burlington, where they both died. Another portion is said to have been purchased from a member of the Society named Sarah Darr, and ten shillings were





FIRST MEETING HOUSE OF THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS  
Built in 1683. Present meeting house built in 1784.



paid for land valued now at many thousands. There is a tradition that it was established as a burying ground very soon after the settlement of the town, and that even before that time it was used as a burial place by the Indians. So much for tradition. There is no trustworthy record of the location of Burlington's first graveyard where the interment of John Kinsey, the first person to die in the settlement, was made. Samuel Smith in his *History of New Jersey* says that John Kinsey was buried in ground that has since become a street, but he does not name the street.

For nearly a hundred years that picturesque meeting house served the Society. It seems to have been put to secular uses at times. The minutes show that in 1691 it was ordered that the Court should not "be kept in our meeting house any more." Another minute, dated 7th of 11th mo. 1705, states that "it is the request of some Friends of Burlington to this Meeting that they have the privilege of allowing a school to be kept in this Meeting house in Burlington, which request is answered by this Meeting." There is no earlier record of any school in Burlington.

By 1773 the Quarterly Meeting had outgrown the capacity of the little hexagonal building and subscriptions were started for the erection of a larger meeting house. The work of building was not actively entered upon until ten years later. The new building, the present impressively plain meeting house, a memorial of a placid period in the life of Burlington, was completed in 1784. It stands farther south, and nearer the street, than the old meeting house which was permitted to remain until 1792, when it was demolished. With the materials from the hexagonal meeting house and funds accruing from the sale of the old frame building on Broad Street the Preparative Meeting erected the little brick school house at Penn and York Streets. While these changes were in progress the school was kept in the

former office of Governor Samuel Jenings, on High Street near Pearl Street.

The Burlington Monthly Meeting included a wide district comprising the Particular Meetings held at Shackamaxon and Chester, Pa., Rancocas, and Friends living at the Falls of the Delaware, Hoarkills and Newcastle; also those on Long Island who in 1681 expressed a desire "to be considered members" of this Monthly Meeting. The Meeting grew rapidly. A statement of W. Dockwra to the Lords of Trade, sitting in London, dated September 1699, is found in the New Jersey Archives giving the number of freeholders in West Jersey to be eight hundred and thirty-two, "whereof two hundred and sixty-six are Quakers." He adds that "the Quakers are more numerous in Burlington County than in all the other counties." This increase in numbers led to the building, by permission of the Burlington Meeting, of a number of meeting houses for Friends at Springfield, Rancocas, Mount Holly, Shrewsbury, Trenton and Crosswicks.

The Yearly Meeting of 1696 was greatly disturbed, and the entire town and vicinity more or less excited, by a visit from Heinrich Bernhard Koster, a Germantown mystic. He was accompanied by six members of his Mennonite company who had been attending the Burlington Meeting. It is said that four thousand people and forty ministers were present. Koster attempted to control the conduct of affairs but was firmly checked. After indulging in interruptions of several of the speakers he occupied the steps of the nearby Court House as a forum and harangued those who passed or lingered to listen to him.

The records of the Burlington Meeting have been kept with wonderful care and accuracy since 1678, and many odd and interesting details are found in them. Many marriages took place soon after the arrival of the first settlers and the



record of them takes up much of the minutes. The first marriage certificate was that of Thomas Leeds and Margaret Colier dated 6th of 8th mo. 1678. The names of prominent members of the colony are signed to it, but those of the contracting couple are strangely absent. One other marriage, recorded in the year 1678 is that of Henry Reynolds to Prudence Clayton.

The record of the first marriage in 1679 has romantic interest. It is that of Robert Zane to Alice Alday who, it is said, was an Indian maiden to whom an English name was given when the preliminaries of the marriage were arranged. The quaint record of it is as follows: "This is to certifie whom it may concerne yt Robert Zane, of Elsingboro, and Alice Alday, of Burlington, haveing declared their Intentions of Marriage at two general meetings, Friends haveing taken it into consideration and finding nothing against them in this proceeding—they were joyned in marriage in publique meeting, in Burlington, in ye presence of us whose names are under written." The names of fifteen witnesses are appended.

The books of the Burlington Meeting show a copy of an epistle addressed to the London Yearly Meeting, in 1680, on behalf of the Friends in Burlington, and requiring certificates. Bowden's *History of Friends in America* states that this communication is the earliest received from any meeting in America. In the year 1681, the record of Births and Deaths began to be kept and a woman's meeting was established. The minute of 5th of 9th mo. 1682 advises against admission of servants into the houses of those who did not require them, especially such servants as did not "profess the same truth with us." The minute following this advises "that male and female, both old and young, who make mention of ye name of ye Lord, may all take heed that they be not found in, nor wearing Superfluity of

Apparel nor Immoderate nor unseemly taking of Tobacco, also selling of needless things whereby any may take offence justly." An eventful meeting with the Indians in that year, by means of an interpreter, is recorded.

Another entry, in 1685, makes note that "Peter Woolcott was willing to make graves, and to look to ye Fences of ye burying ground, and Friends are willing to see him paid an old English shilling for such men's and women's graves yt may not be paid for by ye persons yt employ him." An order for a hearse, "or carriage to be built for the use of such as are to be laid in ye ground," is recorded about this date. John Tomlinson and wife and the people from their plantation were "visited because not attending meeting," the reason given "they were offended at women's speaking in public, but for the future they should be more diligent."

It appears by the minute of the meeting of 23rd of 11th mo. 1704 that Thomas Atkinson had been charged by Restore Lippincott with "pulling off his hat" when John Langstaff was buried. Atkinson insisted he had witnesses to disprove this. Further reference to this is found in the minute of 6th of 6th mo. 1705: "Whereas some time since there was a paper sent in by Thos. Atkinson that Restore Lippincott charged him falsely in the face of the meeting with pulling off his hat att the time of John Langstaff's funeral whilst the priest was speaking for which at our last meeting some Friends were to speak to Restore Lippincott to be at our last Monthly Meeting to answer itt for himself, and he making it appear by several evidences to be true, it is this Meeting's Judgment that Restore Lippincott did not accuse Thos. Atkinson falsely."

There was dread in the province at this time of forays by the French and we find that Friends who had "taken up arms" for this and other causes made confession of their transgression. At the meeting of 11 mo. 24, 1704, Joseph

Endicote, William Petty, Jr., Richard Eayre and Jacob Lamb acknowledged carrying arms upon a rumor that the French were at Cohocksink. The "French" invaders proved to be Spanish and Indian runaways from a vessel in the Delaware. The young men declared in their confession "that it seemed best for those that had guns to take them, not with the design to hurt, much less to kill, man, woman or child; but we thought that if we could meet these runaways, the sight of the guns might fear them."

The Assembly had passed an act favoring the attitude of the Friends who "for conscience could not bear nor use arms to ye destruction of ye lives of men." The Meeting made "particular enquiry" and furnished to "all captains and other military officers" a list of nearly one hundred and twenty-five men who had requested that the Meeting "would certify that they were of the People called Quakers."

A movement began in 1711 to change the Yearly Meeting from Burlington to Philadelphia but without avail. This, however, led to the consideration of a new and larger meeting house for the service of the Yearly Meeting, and subscriptions were made for the purpose, but the house was not built until nearly three-quarters of a century later.

Happenings in Burlington and vicinity at the outbreak of the Revolutionary War greatly disturbed the peaceful Friends. During Lord Howe's occupation of Germantown, in 1777, when there was an almost continual raid by enemy troops between Burlington and Bridgeton, Friends from Burlington were unable to visit Philadelphia, and Philadelphia Friends could not visit Burlington. The Quarterly Meeting record of November 24, 1777, states that twenty-six representatives from the preceding Quarterly Meeting of Ministers and Elders had been prevented from attending Yearly Meeting because they were "hindered from crossing the River by military men stopping the boats on this side,

on account of the British Troops being in possession of the City of Philadelphia."

It is not strange that the Meeting found it difficult, and sometimes impossible, to restrain many of their young men from enlisting in the cause of the colonies, despite the Society's position as stated in the following minute: "We the people called Quakers, ever since we were distinguished as a Society, have declared to the world our belief in the peaceable tendency of the Gospel of Christ, and that consistent therewith we could not bear arms, nor be concerned in warfare." The sessions of the Meeting were interrupted by the seizure of the meeting house as a military barracks. The troops used fences and anything about the premises that served as firewood. This and other damage done to the property made expensive repairs necessary. The War of 1812 was less disturbing.

In 1789 a movement for reprinting a quarto edition of the Bible was encouraged. At the meeting of 5 mo. 25th of that year a number of proposals for doing this work by subscription were produced and distributed that it might obtain support among Friends. Isaac Collins, the Burlington printer, who had removed his press to New York, did the printing of the book in 1791, the first quarto Bible to be printed in America. Biblical authorities declared it to be the most correct edition extant.

Collins' great desire was to keep the book free from typographical errors. He enlisted the services of several persons who had long experience in reading proofs. In revising the proof sheets, as well as in the examination of various editions of the Bible, he had the assistance of several learned and distinguished ministers of different religious denominations, while his children helped in reading his proofs eleven times, the last examination being entrusted to his eldest daughter. Collins also offered a reward of one



pound for the detection of any error. A broken letter and a wrong mark of punctuation were found. When great differences occurred in the rendering the proof sheets were sent to Drs. Witherspoon and Smith, presidents in succession of Princeton.

The separation in the Society of Friends in America in 1827 was a shock to the members of the Burlington Meeting as elsewhere. A Hicksite Meeting house was eventually erected in 1845 on High Street, now occupied by All Saints R. C. Church, the Polish parish. The minutes of the Orthodox Meeting contain many expressions of anxiety concerning the possible outcome of the movement. Burlington, however, suffered less loss of membership than many other meetings.

The history of the Burlington Meeting during the last century has been uneventful save for the deaths of many of its most valued members.

ST. MARYS PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH was the first seat of Episcopal authority in America, and the original church edifice at Broad and Wood Streets is the most ancient house of worship in Burlington.

At the beginning of the eighteenth century the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, organized in London in 1701, maintained thirteen missionary preachers to promote the growth of the Church in the colonies. One of these missionaries was George Keith, a Scotch Quaker, who previously had been sent out to Pennsylvania to engage in educational work among the Quakers. He became a vigorous foe of their rationalizing tendencies and found many adherents. They called themselves Christian Quakers, but were generally called Keithians.

Keith, who was said by the famous Bishop Burnet, of Salisbury, to be the most learned man in the sect of Quakers, "well versed both in Oriental tongues and Philosophy

and Mathematics," was ordained in the Church of England by the Bishop of London in 1700. In April 1702 he embarked for Boston in the ship *Centurion*, from Cowes, to enter upon missionary work, and met John Talbot, the chaplain of the ship. They were attracted to each other. Keith wrote to the "S. P. G." praying that Talbot be permitted to become his associate in missionary work, and Talbot received his appointment from the Society on September 18, 1702.

From Boston Keith and Talbot began their missionary journey through the lower New England colonies and arrived in Burlington on October 29, 1702. From Keith's journal we learn that Mr. Talbot preached in the Town Hall on All Saints Day, November 1, in the morning and Mr. Keith in the afternoon before "a great auditory of diverse sorts, some of the church and some of the late converts from Quakerism." Colonel Hamilton, then Governor of West Jersey, was present at both sessions and entertained the two missionaries at dinner.

Keith makes mention that on Sunday, February 21, 1703, he again preached in Burlington and "baptized the wife of Mr. Robert Wheeler and his three children and five others." Wheeler was a convert from Quakerism. A movement for the building of a church was begun and by the end of February two hundred pounds had been received for that purpose. A piece of land on Wood Street near Broad Street, bought in 1695 by several persons in and about Burlington for "a Christian burying ground," had been enlarged and fenced in. On March 6, 1702, the adjoining lot, on the corner of Broad and Wood Streets, was bought by Nathaniel Westland, Robert Wheeler and Hugh Huddy as a site for "the erecting of a church and other buildings as occasion may serve for charitable uses."

On the Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin,

March 25, 1703, the corner stone of St. Marys Church was laid. Mr. Talbot writes under date of May 3, 1703: "I was at Burlington last Lady Day and after prayers we went out to the ground where they were going to build a church and I laid the first stone which I hope will be no other than the house of God and Gate of Heaven to the people. Colonel Nicholson, Governor here, was the chief founder of this as well as many more; and indeed he has been the benefactor to all the Churches on this land of North America. God bless this Church and let them prosper that love it. We called this Church St. Marys, it being upon her day."

The Rev. George Keith preached the first sermon in the new church on Sunday August 22, 1703, although the building was "not quite covered and floored, nor plastered nor glazed." Lord Cornbury, whose appointment as the first royal governor was proclaimed that day in the Town Hall, was present with many other persons from New York and from various parts of the Province.

The Holy Sacrament was first administered on Whitsunday, June 4, 1704. Although the original building was very small the erection of it involved the Parish in debt, from which it was relieved by a gift of twenty-five pounds from Colonel Daniel Coxe. A glebe for the rector's use was next provided by the purchase of about six acres adjoining the church yard. The funds for this were provided in England.

Some months earlier a petition had been sent by Nathaniel Westland, Colonel Hugh Huddy, Robert Wheeler, William Budd and thirteen others praying that Mr. Talbot "may receive orders to settle with us." This was granted, and in November, 1705, Mr. Talbot became the permanent rector. His zealous ministry was bringing results. We find this record in Keith's journal: "Mr. Talbot has Baptized most of them who have been Baptized since

our arrival among them and particularly all the children both Male and Female of William Budd who formerly was a Quaker in Burlington but has come over from Quakerism to the Church with divers others of the Neighborhood in the country about the town of Burlington who come usually to the Church at Burlington on the Lord's-day, some of them Six, Eight and some of Ten or Twelve miles, some of them more."

Efforts were begun at this time to secure a Bishop in America. On November 2nd, 1707, fifteen members of the clergy of the neighboring colonies met in Burlington and an address was drawn up and signed and sent to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel setting forth the need for "the presence and assistance of a Suffragan Bishop" to ordain candidates for the priesthood and to confirm the baptised." This address was carried to England by Mr. Talbot and presented to Queen Anne with other letters, but without avail. No Bishop was appointed, but he reported on his return that "Her Majesty had been graciously pleased to give us Lead and Glass and Pulpit Cloths and Altar Cloths and a silver chalice and salver for the Communion table and a Brocade altar cloth."

These gifts were received from the hands of Col. Robert Quarry, an early benefactor of the Parish who also brought an embossed silver chalice and paten, the gift of Madame Catherine Bovey, of Flaxley. It may interest those who appreciate the discovery of literary identities to learn that Catherine Bovey was the "perverse widow," the inconstant enchantress, who occasioned Sir Roger de Coverly so many wakeful nights and brooding, melancholy days, as related in Addison's *Spectator*. In April 1711, Col. Quarry made a gift to the church of "a large Beaker with a cover well engraved for the use of the Communion."

To these historic silver pieces, used only on high festi-



vals, and some old collection plates recast from still older silver, there has been added a large paten ornamented with an enameled medallion of the King of Glory, presented at the consecration of the new church in 1854, and a solid gold pyx ornamented with a cross of diamonds, heirlooms from the Bovey family, and presented in 1895 by Sister Christina of the Community of the Holy Nativity.

A missionary charge in Talbot's time was not a sinecure. He wrote in 1709: "We can't baptise anybody hardly now for want of godfathers and godmothers, for who will be bound where they are not like to be discharged? I can't get children here to be catechised for they are ashamed of anything that's good for want of schoolmasters to teach them better." He closes with this plea: "Pray for God's sake send us some books of all sorts, especially Common Prayer books." Again in 1724 he wrote: "I had formerly twenty pounds per annum, when there was money, but now there is neither money, credit, nor tobacco, nothing but a little paper coin, that is nothing but sorry rags, and we can hardly get them to pay the clerk ten pounds that is allowed him by the year."

The efforts of Mr. Talbot to secure a Bishop continued for twenty years. A bill had been ordered to be drafted and offered in Parliament for establishing bishoprics in America, and his hopes were high. To provide a Bishop's seat he persuaded the "S. P. G.", through Governor Burnet, to purchase the mansion house and lands of John Tatham, a domain of fifteen acres bounded on the north by the Delaware river, on the east by the Assiscunk Creek, on the south by Broad Street and on the west by St. Mary Street. Talbot called it "the finest house in America." The grounds were laid out in orchards and flower gardens. Unfortunately Queen Anne, who had sponsored the bill, died before it was introduced into Parliament and Talbot returned to

America. Referring to this visit, he wrote in 1724, "One thing more at present which I omitted when I was in England, for money was short, or else I would have got some Bells, which we want here very much. I don't mean a Ring of Bells in a Steeple, for idle fellows to make a vain jingling, but one good bell in the Church, that the people may know when to come together to worship God."

It was long a tradition which later evidence has established as an historical fact that, distressed by his inability to procure a Bishop, Talbot had himself clandestinely consecrated to the office by Dr. Ralph Taylor, a non-juring Bishop who had been chaplain to the Protestants at the Court of James II, in France, but there is no record that he performed any Episcopal acts.

The controversy to which this gave rise resulted ultimately in Talbot's dismissal from the service of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. He had enemies. Despite his Herculean labors as a missionary over a territory that extended even to the New England colonies, despite the evidences of his loyalty, and the witness of his friends, he was charged with leanings towards Jacobitism. Persecutions, slanders and falsehoods were climaxed by an order of the Governor of the Province that he "surcease from officiating." He died in Burlington November 29, 1727, but careful search fails to reveal the place of his burial. When Talbot's widow died in Philadelphia, in 1731, her will was sealed with her husband's Episcopal seal—a mitre with flowing ribbons and a monogram in script letters, "J. T." Talbot's life and death are both involved in mystery, but the eventful history of his remarkable priestly activities, and the value of his great services to the Church, will ever remain the cherished heritage of the Parish of St. Marys.

During the interval until the coming of Rev. Colin

Campbell as missionary rector in 1738 the church languished. Under his ministry of nearly twenty-nine years there was an increase of membership, the church at Mount Holly was founded (he served both Parishes), a new parsonage was bought, and a number of gifts and bequests were received. He died in 1766.

His successor, Rev. Jonathan Odell, was inducted into the rectorship by Governor William Franklin, on July 26, 1767. Two years later he enlarged the church building twenty-three feet to its present west front and placed silk hangings, presented by the wife of Governor Franklin, on the pulpit desk and table. Mr. Odell refused to accept a salary from the Parish until after the debt incurred by the enlargement of the church building was paid. While continuing his duties as rector he supported himself by resuming the practice of medicine for which he had been educated.

It was about this period that Thomas Hunloke, one of the vestrymen, managed a lottery to raise funds for the erection of a brick steeple on the church and the purchase of a new bell, the General Assembly having passed an Act in 1762 authorizing the wardens and vestry to raise in that manner a sum of money, not exceeding one thousand pounds, for repairs and improvements of church property. This steeple was never built, nor was there a new bell purchased. In 1769, when the church was enlarged a wooden belfry was erected and the old bell was recast and placed therein.

The record of Mr. Odell's nine years of devoted effort in the Parish, his 249 baptisms, 122 marriages, and 131 burials, has been overshadowed by the legend of his loyalty to Great Britain in Revolutionary days, and his efforts to preserve peace. His motives were misunderstood. As a British subject and a clergyman of the Church of England

he had taken the oath of supremacy; he could not do otherwise than he did. In October 1775, he was examined before the Provincial Congress and it declined to condemn him. After the Declaration of Independence, however, his parole was taken restricting him to a circle within eight miles of the Court House in Burlington. In December 1776 he eluded the pursuit of a party of Patriot Tory hunters by concealment in the home of Margaret Hill Morris, on the river bank, and later made his way to New York. His wife and three children, the youngest not five weeks old, were obliged to remain behind. He afterward went to England and finally settled in the Province of New Brunswick, where he was called to a seat in His Majesty's Council. Mr. Odell was a man of versatile parts, accomplished, brilliant and witty in conversation, and able to turn a worthwhile ballad with ease, particularly upon political themes.

From April 1789 until April 1793 Rev. Levi Heath was the rector, and from July 1793 until August 1796, Rev. Henry Van Dyke. For a few years after the close of the Revolutionary War conditions were unfavorable to progress in the Parish. A change came when Rev. Charles Henry Wharton assumed the rectorate in September 1796. Within three years a new parsonage was built at the corner of Broad and Talbot Streets, the present Guild House. In April 1803 the domain of fifteen acres purchased a century earlier from the estate of John Tatham for a Bishop's seat was deeded to the church by the "S. P. G." The church was enlarged in 1811 by the addition of the present chancel. In 1816 the Sunday School was founded through the efforts of a youth of seventeen years, Charles P. McIlvaine, who in later years became distinguished as Bishop of Ohio.

In July 1833 the venerable prelate, Dr. Charles Henry Wharton, rector for a generation, died in the eighty-sixth year of his age, beloved by all. The progress, spiritual



and material, begun by him, reached its culmination under the zealous and inspired labors of his successor, Rt. Rev. George Washington Doane, the newly consecrated Bishop of New Jersey, who accepted the rectorate. The record of Bishop Doane's ministry of twenty years and its accomplishment forms one of the brightest pages in the history of the Parish and Diocese.

The ancient church edifice, erected one hundred and thirty years before, had never been consecrated. During the fall of 1834 Bishop Doane had the building made cruciform by enlargements north and south, doubling the seating capacity. In December of that year a service of consecration was held. His life-long interest in religious education led to the founding of St. Marys Hall in 1837, the first church school for girls in America; the incorporation of Burlington College in 1846; the opening of the Parish School for Girls in 1847, and for boys in 1853. "Riverside," the Episcopal residence from 1839 until 1874, was built by Bishop and Mrs. Doane.

Bishop Doane's desire to make the cathedral church an edifice in keeping with its eminence in the Diocese was realized when the corner stone of the new church was laid on November 17th, 1846, and the beautiful gothic structure of brown stone, designed by Upjohn, the architect of Trinity Church, New York, was completed and dedicated on August 10, 1854. It will remain for many generations a noble monument to a life of the highest endeavor. At this time daily morning and evening prayer, and the weekly celebration of the Holy Communion was begun. In 1856 St. Barnabas Free Mission was opened, and Rev. William Crosswell Doane, son of Bishop Doane, was placed in charge. While William Crosswell Doane was rector of St. Barnabas he conceived the idea of introducing the old English custom of singing the "waits," that is, ushering

in the dawn of Christ's natal day with song. He gathered around him some of the musical youth of the Parish and the town and with the assistance of Professor George W. Hewitt taught the sacred carols. From that date the custom was continued until the year 1879 when the effort became strained and many indifferent. The St. Marys Choral Society, formed in 1877 under the leadership of George H. Allen, took it up, systematized the custom, and started out with a regular form of procedure. This has been carried out year after year ever since; a custom probably not enjoyed by any other community in the country.

The corner stone of St. Barnabas Chapel was laid by its founder, Bishop Doane, on June 11, 1858. The following year, on April 27, 1859, this "princely prelate" passed to his reward.

The Parish was placed in charge of Rt. Rev. William Henry Odenheimer, newly consecrated as Bishop of New Jersey, in January 1860. The following September the Rev. William Croswell Doane, D. D., destined himself to become a power in the Church in later years as Bishop of Albany, was chosen to the rectorate. An act of the State was passed at this time and reported to the Convention, making St. Marys Church the Cathedral Church of the Diocese.

In May 1863 Rev. Eugene A. Hoffman succeeded to the rectorate. In building the costly new church a considerable debt was incurred. This had been steadily lessened and in Mr. Hoffman's brief tenure of ten months it was entirely paid. To stimulate effort to this end two ladies of the Parish, Miss Margaret S. and Miss Mary McIlvaine, agreed to present the church a chime of bells as soon as the incumbrance on the property should be removed. The chimes, consisting of eight bells and weighing about ninety hundred weight, were cast by Messrs. Mears & Stanbank,

London, England, a bell foundry which has been in existence since 1738 and has cast many of the finest chimes in America, but none more sweet in tone than the "Bells of St. Marys." The bells arrived in Burlington in February 1866 and were safely hoisted into place in March. They were rung for the first time on Easter of that year, during the rectorate of Rev. William Allen Johnson, who succeeded Mr. Hoffman and served the Parish until his resignation in 1870.

In August of that year Rev. George Morgan Hills was elected rector and was "instituted" on December 4th. He remained for ten years and became an important figure in the Diocese as well as in the Parish. In November 1873 the present rectory was purchased through the bequest of Mrs. Robardet. The old church had fallen into disrepair. During the winter of 1875-76 a restoration was made. On February 2nd of the latter year the restored building was formally reopened by Bishops Scarborough and Odenheimer and dedicated to Parish School and Sunday School uses.

In 1877 Dr. Hills published his "History of the Church in Burlington," a monumental volume, rich in historic value. Dr. Hills organized the men and women of the Parish into a Guild for all branches of parochial work in 1872 and had it incorporated under the laws of New Jersey. During 1878 legacies were received for various purposes, including Paladini fund for the poor, amounting to nearly nine thousand dollars, and many notable gifts, altar cloths, communion rails, the brass cross and vases, and many other things. The Lych Gate was erected in memory of Stephen Germain Hewitt about this time.

The one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of John Talbot's death was remembered in 1877 by placing a mural tablet to his memory in old St. Marys Church, the gift of John William Wallace, President of the Historical Society of Philadelphia, of which Dr. Hills had been made an hon-

orary member. The vested choir was established in 1880 and a "Form for the Admission of Choristers" was prepared by Dr. Hills, the first service of the kind in America.

Rev. Charles Henry Hibbard followed Dr. Hills in 1891. His rectorate is noteworthy for the re-organization of the Guild, the enlargement of the Guild House, and the beautifying of the church by the placing of the exquisite stained glass windows which now adorn it. In 1892 a Litany desk was given in memory of De Tracey Hudson Rich. In 1893 a Rood-Screen of iron and brass was placed in the Church in memory of members of St. Mary's Brotherhood, deceased. In 1894 a Credence Table was erected in memory of Miss Sarah B. Woolman. In 1898 Mr. George W. Hewitt made a gift to the Parish of two thousand dollars as a fund whose income should be devoted to Scholarships in the Parish School, in memory of his son George Notman Hewitt. He also placed a stone coping on the churchyard wall and built, at the Broad Street entrance near the old church, a fine colonial gateway in memory of Elizabeth Hewitt, his wife, and their daughter Anne. The handsome iron fence in the rear of the churchyard was the gift of Mrs. Elizabeth A. Ellis.

When Mr. Hibbard resigned in 1897, Rev. James Frederick Olmsted was called from Schenectady, N. Y. It was his great privilege to have the period of his ministry marked by the splendid festival services of the two hundredth anniversary of the Parish. On Easter Day, April 12, 1903, a handsome new Lectern "To the memory of Mrs. Elizabeth Rich and her two sons, Thomas Hudson Rich and John Contee Rich," was blessed, taking the place of the temporary Lectern used for nearly half a century. Dr. Olmsted was especially close to the men of the Parish during the seventeen years of his ministry. He died February 4, 1914.

The Rev. Charles Smith Lewis became rector in July



1914. The consecration of Rev. Paul Matthews as Bishop of New Jersey took place in St. Marys in January of the following year. An important step was taken during the rectorate of Mr. Lewis when the pews were made free. As Chairman of the Civilian League Mr. Lewis led the Parish, and the community at large, in various activities of war work after the United States entered the World War. The Guild House was outfitted as an emergency hospital. Many lives were undoubtedly saved during the influenza epidemic in the fall of 1918 by the prompt attention and careful nursing received in this little emergency hospital. Mr. Lewis resigned in May 1920.

Rev. John Talbot Ward assumed the rectorship February 1, 1921. In November 1922 the Bi-centennial of the consecration of John Talbot as the first Bishop of New Jersey, by Ralph Taylor, a non-juring Bishop, was celebrated with the presiding Bishop of the Diocese and other prominent clergymen present. A historical paper was read by Canon Charles S. Lewis giving new evidence which established the fact of Talbot's consecration. In May 1925 the portion of glebe land on West Union Street was consecrated by Bishop Matthews and was made an addition to the burial ground.

BROAD STREET METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH is a landmark in the history of Methodism in New Jersey. While the progress of the cause was slow during the first years of its history in Burlington it was even then a prominent religious society. From the beginning it was favored with the encouraging presence and labors of such men as Capt. Charles T. Webb, the English evangelist, Francis Asbury, Richard Boardman and John King. In fact Asbury acted the part of a pastor over the Burlington and Trenton societies in their early infancy. In his journal, under date of May 22nd, 1791, Asbury writes, "Eighteen years ago,

I often slipped away from Philadelphia to Burlington for one week, and to Trenton another, to keep a few souls alive."

The preaching was held in the Court House during the first years. When that was taken down the Methodists met in a small private house occupied by George Smith, himself a Methodist. Some time, about the year 1788, General Joseph Bloomfield, who became Governor of New Jersey a few years later, asked James Sterling, a member of the society, why they did not have a house of prayer, "where they might meet for public worship and the preaching of the word." Mr. Sterling's answer was, "We are too poor; we have no ground to build it on and nothing to build it with." The General generously replied, "I will give a lot of ground if you will put up the house."

Mr. Sterling was spurred to make the effort. He said to Mr. Smith, at whose house the meetings were held, "If you will beg the money to pay the workmen, I will find all the materials." Mr. Smith collected the money, Mr. Sterling provided the materials, and the Methodists thus obtained their first house of prayer in Burlington, a little frame structure "painted red," erected on the rear of the lot occupied by the present church building, the former site of the old County Jail. For the time it was considered quite respectable.

Soon after this church was built Bishop Asbury visited Burlington and, on October 6, 1789, he writes in his journal, "After twenty years of preaching they have built a very beautiful meeting house at Burlington, but it is low times there in religion." In the month of September 1790 a Methodist Conference was held in Burlington. Bishop Asbury remarks in his journal: "On Tuesday night we had a shout; then came the bulls of Bashan and broke our win-

dows. It was well my head escaped the violence of these wicked miners."

In 1820 that first modest meeting house was replaced by a more fitting structure, which served until 1847 when the congregation had increased to four hundred persons and the building was so crowded at church services that many who desired to worship there were unable to do so. The pastor, Rev. Joseph Ashbrook, took the subject under consideration and at a meeting held on February 1, 1847, it was resolved to demolish the old building, which was but forty by fifty feet, and to erect in its place another of fifty by seventy feet to accommodate one thousand persons, and provided with a basement for the Sunday School which then numbered three hundred and twenty-two children.

On Wednesday afternoon, May 3, 1847, the cornerstone was laid by Rev. John S. Porter, assisted by Rev. T. Neall, Rev. T. Page, Rev. W. E. Perry and the pastor of the church, Rev. Charles H. Whitecar. The building was completed in five months and on Thursday, December 30, 1847, was dedicated with impressive ceremonies. This building was remodeled in 1887 with striking changes in the form and effect of its interior.

The Sunday School was founded in 1826 by the wife of the venerated Rev. John S. Porter and Miss Catharine Wright. The Broad Street M. E. Church has been outreaching in its influence. It founded the Sunday school, known as "Shedaker's," on the Beverly Road, "Rakestraw's" on the Old York Road, and the St. Mary Street Sunday School which became famous in the sixties under the superintendency of Amos Hutchin and his equally able and enthusiastic associate, Mrs. Charlotte H. Voute.

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, of Burlington, has a history which runs back to a period eleven years after the coming of the first settlers. That there were Baptists among

the accretions to the colony during the first eleven years is evidenced by an ancient record of the existence of a little congregation of the people of that faith in the year 1688.

They were so few in number that they found it difficult to maintain the organization. They disbanded in 1699 and connected themselves with the Pennypack Baptist Church, Lower Dublin, Pa. The Burlington Baptists, as recorded in the minutes of the church at Lower Dublin, were: Thomas Bibbs, Thomas Potts and Ann, his wife; Nathaniel Douglass and Emblem, his wife; Edmund Wells, Joseph Wood, Ann Gill, John Joiner, Nathaniel West and Elizabeth, his wife. The same records also show that the first pastor of the church at Lower Dublin, Rev. Elias Keach, preached both in Burlington and Philadelphia.

Keach returned to England and John Watts was assigned to look after the congregation in Burlington. In 1695 Watts preached here one Sunday in every month. In 1699 he visited Burlington every third Sunday. During the year 1700 the weather was so inclement that no visitations were made to Burlington. There were occasional preachings by itinerant Baptist ministers during the next century, and there is a tradition that these services were held for a time in the old Revolutionary Barracks which stood on East Broad Street between Earl Street and the Assiscunk Creek.

The standard of the Baptist faith was planted permanently in Burlington by Rev. William Staughton, who came to this city from Bordentown in 1798. He was successful in reaching the people and a substantial Baptist organization was established within two years after his coming. Their meetings were held during the first year in the assembly room of the old Burlington Academy which then occupied the ground where the new St. Marys Church now stands.

The first house of worship owned by the Baptist congregation was a frame dwelling, on the site of their present



church building, at Broad and Stacy Streets. It had been occupied by the Society of Friends, first as a place of occasional meetings, and later as a school house, until 1792. The Baptists renovated and remodeled the building and it served them for a generation.

Following Mr. Staughton's resignation in 1805, to become pastor of the First Baptist Church in Philadelphia, the church in Burlington was served for short periods by such devoted ministers as William Boswell, James McLaughlin, Burgess Allison, D.D., James E. Welch, Peter Wilson, Joseph H. Kennard and George Allen. The Baptist cause advanced rapidly. In 1825, the year in which Mr. Allen was called from the Deaconate to the Pastorate, the Sunday School was organized by Bertha Ellis and Sarah B. Allen. Rev. Samuel Aaron succeeded Mr. Allen in 1833. During his pastorate a new house of worship was erected. This edifice was enlarged in 1850 at a cost of two thousand dollars.

The Baptists continued to increase in numbers and prosperity. In 1871 the church was again remodeled and enlarged at a cost of fourteen thousand dollars, under the successful pastorate of Rev. James Wilson. The debt thus incurred was removed during the four years following, when the church was served by Rev. Evan Davis.

The ministry of Rev. Thomas Eastwood, D.D., who entered upon his work in Burlington on September 1, 1882, served the church for ten years and, after an interval as pastor of Tabernacle Baptist Church in Albany, returned to begin a second pastorate of twenty-four years, covers a period of remarkable advancement. The mortgage on the church property was removed, a chapel built at Springside, the church building enlarged and frescoed, four hundred and thirty persons added to the membership (three hundred and twenty of them by baptism), and in 1912 the present beau-

tiful semi-gothic structure was built at a cost of sixty-five thousand dollars.

Mr. Eastwood resigned from the pastorate in 1922. He met a tragic death, which was deplored by the entire community, when struck by an automobile while returning from a service in the chapel he had founded at Springside. Mr. Eastwood was succeeded by the present incumbent, Rev. Millard Osmore Peirce, the pulpit having been filled in the interim by Rev. Philip Strong.

An outstanding feature of the history of the Baptist Church is the record of the number of its converts who have entered the ministry, some to become pastors here. They are William Boswell, Peter Powell, Joseph Sheppard, Jonathan Price, who became a missionary to Burmah and suffered with Dr. Judson for many years in the prison house at Ava; Samuel Aaron, famous as an educator as well as a preacher; George Young, W. F. Brown, George Allen, J. Kennard Wilson, Norman G. Oliver and Albert Stockebrand.

ST. PAULS R. C. CHURCH can trace its origin back to the period from 1798 to 1833, when the Catholics of Burlington and the surrounding country were attended by the Augustinian Fathers of St. Augustines Church, Vine Street, Philadelphia. In 1833, what was known as the "West Jersey Mission" was established. It was ministered to by the Jesuit Fathers until 1837, when Burlington and the neighboring parishes were given over to the secular clergy, and Rev. Daniel Magorien, of St. Johns Church, now the Sacred Heart, of Broad Street, Trenton, became the first pastor of St. Pauls. He was succeeded by Rev. John Mackin, with Rev. Jeremiah Ahearn as his assistant.

In 1845 Father Ahearn purchased from Philip Sisom the old English military barracks, at the angle of East Broad Street and Assiscunk Creek, and converted it into a

combined church and dwelling. The succeeding pastor was Father Lane, from 1849 to 1853, when Father Bowles, pastor of the church at Bordentown, resigned that charge and came to the Burlington parish. In 1856 he purchased the Humphrey property on East Broad Street for a rectory and remodeled the barracks into what was lately St. Pauls Church building. Under the pastorate of Father Bowles the church was incorporated by command of Right Reverend James Bailey, Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of New Jersey. Among the incorporators were James Judge, William Tracey, Michael Fitzpatrick, James Fitzpatrick, John Conroy and John Egan.

Father Bowles' successor was Rev. Michael Kirwan, from 1869 to 1876. About the year 1870 he opened the first Catholic parochial school, and remodeled the basement of the church for its use. Rev. Secundinus Pattle, a Spanish priest, was the next pastor. He served from 1876 to 1885, built the Sacristy and purchased the bell. The next incumbent was Rev. Patrick Tracey, from 1886 to 1892. His successor, Rev. John J. Griffin, remained at St. Pauls until 1899, when he was transferred to a church at Woodbridge, N. J.

St. Pauls entered upon a period of remarkable development when Rev. Henry Russi came from Oxford, N. J., in 1899 and assumed charge of the Burlington parish. In 1904 he built St. Pauls Parochial School, on East Broad Street, and made a new rectory by purchasing and remodeling the dwelling adjoining the old rectory. The parish prospered, spiritually as well as materially. Further development was required to meet its growing needs.

Father Russi purchased the Budd mansion at the northwest corner of Union and St. Mary Streets, for a rectory, and the Binney homestead for a convent; then the Watts residence and the adjoining property, formerly occupied by

the Burlington County Aged Women's Home, and moved them to the Barclay Street rear of the lot, and converted them into the Sancta Maria Academy. Upon the site thus created, at the southwest corner of Union and St. Mary Streets, the present splendid church of medieval type and granite construction was erected. It is safe to assume that no parish in the Diocese has surpassed these achievements of Father Russi's pastorate of a quarter of a century.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, of Burlington, has a splendid history. Few churches of its size have preserved in their life the services of more noted pastors and devoted members. A tablet over the pulpit records that the church was founded by Rev. Courtlandt Van Rensselaer, D.D. Though he served here but four years as pastor he became one of the best known and loved men in the entire denomination.

Coming to Burlington to live, Dr. Van Rensselaer built "Stone Cottage" on the river bank. Soon after, he and Dr. William Chester gathered together a little group of Presbyterians and organized a church on July 7, 1836, under authority of the Presbytery of Philadelphia. Thomas Aikman, Luke Reed and William Chester were made the first elders. Meetings were held at first in the "Philosophical Lecture Room" connected with the academy conducted by Rev. Messrs. Aaron and Green, who in April had taken over the famous educational institution established by John Gummere some years earlier on East Union Street.

By November of the first year the first church building, a frame structure, was erected on East Pearl Street in the rear of the present church and chapel. In this first church edifice of the Presbyterians, called to this day "the Van Rensselaer building," the parochial school was organized later. The Presbyterian Italian Mission now occupy it as a place of worship. The present church edifice at High and



Pearl Streets was erected in 1838. It was enlarged in 1853. The brick building, known as the Pearl Street Chapel, was put up in 1873.

Dr. Van Rensselaer was soon called to raise funds for Princeton Seminary and in this work traveled throughout the country. He was then made Secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Education. To this work he gave his splendid talents and consumed his strength. His death was lamented throughout the land.

The Burlington Presbyterian Church was founded on sound doctrine and evangelistic and missionary zeal. In its third year special gospel meetings were held every night for a month and many men and women were added to the church. A Sunday school was soon organized. Rev. Levi Janvier went out as a missionary to India and met a martyr's death. Dr. Van Rensselaer also organized the Seminary under the direct control of the Church, (known in later years as Van Rensselaer Seminary), and it became widely known for its high academic standing and its value in Christian education. What it stood for then is more greatly needed to-day.

Dr. Van Rensselaer was not only the founder of the church but its life-long patron and friend. He bequeathed funds for the purchase of the present "Manse," also for the support, enlargement and improvement of the church school. The resignation of Dr. Van Rensselaer was followed by a number of short pastorates. The young licentiate, Theodore L. Cuyler, who afterwards in his big church in Brooklyn became one of the greatest pastors in America, was ordained in the Burlington church and occupied its pulpit for nearly three years. Young Cuyler was very energetic as a soul winner. In the second year of his pastorate the church experienced a remarkable revival to which he often referred in after life.

Following Mr. Cuyler the church enjoyed the ministry of Rev. J. B. Ripley, Rev. R. B. Westbrook, Rev. F. R. Harbaugh and Rev. J. B. Chester in succession for short terms. Then came Edward B. Hodge, just out of Princeton Seminary, and ordained in the Burlington church in 1864. Dr. Hodge became its pastor. After twenty-nine years he was called to be the Secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Education, to which his father-in-law, Dr. Van Rensselaer, had given his life.

The church was doubled in size and prestige and usefulness during Dr. Hodge's time, and he was known and loved everywhere. After his son, Courtlandt Van Rensselaer Hodge, and George Yardley Taylor had gone as missionaries to China, where with young Mrs. Van Hodge they lost their lives in the "Boxer" uprising in 1900, Dr. Hodge would visit the Christian Chinese in Philadelphia and was called by them "the man with the Jesus face." A bronze tablet adorns the wall of the church to his remarkable memory, and another opposite it to the memory of the martyred missionaries Taylor and Hodge and Mrs. Hodge.

The Rev. Edward B. Hodge's daughter, Miss Margaret E. Hodge, was the President of the Women's Board of Foreign Missions of the whole national church and now is Vice-President of the Consolidated Boards. In Dr. Hodge's pastorate a Sunday school was begun in East Burlington. The present neat chapel was built there in November 1877. It was Elders F. P. F. Randolph, Horace Churchman and George Reynolds who fostered this work in East Burlington, afterwards maintained by young ministers called to be "assistants" to Dr. Hodge. For many years the superintendent of the school has been Elder Edward R. Carman. The preaching is by students from Princeton Seminary.

With the help of Rev. Louis R. Fox, assisted by such loyal families as the Zelleys and the Styers, the present

church at Bustleton was begun and established. The church at Jacksonville was also built at this time by the aid of Ruling Elder John Scott, and a mission chapel on the Mount Holly Road, now conducted by the Baptists as "Springside." Elder Horace Churchman for some time conducted a Sunday school for colored children on Clarkson Street.

The missionary activities of the Presbyterian Church have continued under the present pastor, Rev. Frank Lukens, who began his labors in Burlington in June 1894. It was he who originated the Italian Mission, beginning in a small way and now maintaining an Italian preacher here who is supplied by the Presbytery. A large number of the second generation of Italians are growing up in the church. Mr. Lukens also furthered the organizing of a new mission school in the growing section known as Farnerville, and a small but well built chapel costing thirty-five hundred dollars now stands on Farner Avenue.

Mr. Lukens started in Burlington, six years ago, a "Daily Vacation Bible School," which meets for a few hours each day for four or five weeks in vacation time, to make more complete and definite the religious instruction of the children, a new movement in which Mr. Lukens became a pioneer. The present membership of the church (in 1927) is about three hundred. The president of the Board of Trustees is Samuel J. McClenahan.

UNION METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH was founded under approval of Rev. T. N. Fisher, Presiding Elder, on March 11, 1853, by some sixty members of Broad Street M. E. Church who desired to separate themselves from the Mother Church and form a new organization. Budd Sterling, President; Dr. Joseph Parrish, Secretary; James Sterling, Treasurer; William Stone, Joseph Kerlin, Samuel Fort, and William R. Deacon composed the first board of trustees. Rev. J. K. Burr, a young man who had just

entered the ministry, was sent by the New Jersey Annual Conference to become the first pastor of the new society.

At first the members met for worship in Odd Fellows' Hall, East Union Street. The Sunday School, organized by William R. Deacon in 1852, met in the same place for a time, and afterward in a room opposite the railroad station on Broad Street. The necessity for a more suitable place of worship led to the purchase of the old frame cocoonery building at York and Union Streets, a relic of the days of the silk worm speculation in Burlington, and which had also served to house the apparatus of an early fire company. This structure was removed to St. Mary Street near Clarkson Street, where it now stands, converted into dwellings.

The present church building was erected on the cleared lot. The corner stone was laid on August 16, 1853, by Bishop Waugh, assisted by Revs. Joseph Ashbrook, A. K. Street, John S. Porter, J. N. Felch, J. K. Burr, and Father Neal. The finished building was dedicated on March 15, 1854, by Bishop Waugh.

In accordance with the desire of the congregation the pew system was adopted at first. It served its purpose for a time, but this method of financing the church was abandoned many years ago. A cemetery on the west side of Lawrence Street was purchased in 1854, and an additional burying ground was established on the east side of the street in 1866.

The Sunday School building in the rear of the church was erected under the pastorate of Rev. L. O. Manchester, and was dedicated by Bishop Henry Warren in January 1874. The neat parsonage on East Union Street, adjoining the church, was built during the successful ministrations of Rev. John B. Haines, in 1886. The Epworth League was organized in 1889.

The membership of Union M. E. Church has never been



large but its people have ever manifested deep devotion to furtherance of the cause in which they are enlisted. More than three score years ago they inspired the organization of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Charleston, on the Rancocas charge, and many faithful laymen and Godly women, trained in the Sunday School and Church, have become zealous workers in other fields.

THE FREE CHURCH OF ST. BARNABAS had its beginning in the founding and establishing of a mission work undertaken by Rev. William Croswell Doane, a son of Bishop G. W. Doane, in 1856. The work was begun in a building known as St. Barnabas Mission House on Sunday, November 30th, of that year, when Bishop Doane opened the Free Mission Chapel with appropriate services.

Rev. William Croswell Doane, who later became the distinguished Bishop of Albany, was the priest in charge. The need for a proper church edifice was met when the corner stone of the present St. Barnabas Church was laid on St. Barnabas Day, June 11, 1858, and the completed building, a brick structure of Early English design, was dedicated on Saturday, November 27, of the same year.

The work of the Mission advanced. When the Rev. William Croswell Doane, upon the death of the Bishop, his father, was called to the rectorship of St. Marys Church in December 1860, he continued oversight of St. Barnabas Mission, assisted by different clergymen, until his resignation from St. Marys in the Spring of 1863. During the following three years the services at St. Barnabas were supplied under the direction of the rectors of St. Marys.

In 1866 the Rev. Robert Lloyd Goldsborough, a member of the well known Maryland family of that name, took charge, and the Mission was formally incorporated as a parish. The property was deeded over to the new corporation, now known as "The Rectors, Wardens and Vestrymen

of the Free Church of St. Barnabas in Burlington." Mr. Goldsborough in his first parochial report says: "The church was consecrated on June 16, 1866. The whole debt was extinguished during the year and previous to the consecration." He was instituted as parish priest on July 15, 1866, and after a rectorate of twenty years was called to his rest on January 18, 1888.

Two months later, on March 22, 1888, the Rev. George William Harrod, of precious memory, was appointed priest in charge by the Bishop of the Diocese. The church building, which had been neglected, was thoroughly cleaned, the interior renovated, a new roof put on, and the exterior repainted. The unsightly parish building at the corner of Broad and St. Mary Streets was pulled down and the site made attractive. A suitable Guild House was erected on the rear of the lot. When the rectory house on East Broad Street was acquired by the generous gift of Mrs. Elizabeth A. Ellis an iron fence was placed about the entire property.

Upon the death of Mr. Harrod, Rev. Philip F. Smith became rector, and served until he accepted a parish in the Virgin Islands at the close of the World War. The present rector, Rev. A. C. Fleidner, was then called to St. Barnabas. A second restoration of the church building has been accomplished under his administration. St. Barnabas was one of the first churches in the country—if not the first—to have a surpliced choir in the chancel and to use the plain song chant in the Divine offices.

AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, the first colored church in Burlington, was founded in 1831. Before that time the few colored people in Burlington attended services in churches with which their white employers were connected. The greater number of them worshipped in the Broad Street M. E. Church, but feeling that their privileges were limited they finally withdrew.

Through the efforts of James Still, a colored local preacher, an organization was effected. Class meetings were held in private houses for a time. The first quarterly meeting was held in a tent. Gilbert Conn, their first class leader, gathered about him a little band who were resolved to have a church building. Uncle Benny Jackson, father of the Benny Jackson who later became a sort of public institution as a local preacher and Burlington's first railway porter, was a Roman Catholic but became a benefactor to his Protestant colored brethren. He was renting the lot on which the church now stands for a truck patch. When he learned that the colored congregation desired it for a church site he relinquished his claim as renter, and bought the lot for them. The deed was drawn to the trustees of African Methodist Episcopal Church. This was in 1831.

John Gummere, the famous Quaker schoolmaster, generously came to their aid, until they could erect a church edifice, by giving them the use of a frame building that had been occupied as a lecture room in connection with his school on East Union Street. One half of this building was formed into a church in 1832. Rev. John Cornish was the pastor at this time. Four years later, a modest meeting house was erected on the Pearl Street lot. The present church edifice was built in 1855 under the pastorate of Rev. G. W. Johnson. It was remodeled in 1873 when Rev. J. W. Stevenson was in charge. Among the founders of the A. M. E. Church we find these names: George Huggs, Eliza Jackson, Asher Conn, Rachel Conn, William Still, James Still, George Woodlin, Emanuel Congo and Gilbert Conn. The church has since acquired a parsonage, the dwelling No. 251 East Pearl Street. The pastor in 1927 is Rev. William Wilson.

ST. MARY STREET METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH had its origin during the early seventies as a direct out-

growth of the Mission Chapel established in 1857, on St. Mary Street near Federal Street, by the Broad Street M. E. Church. For a quarter of a century this Mission was an exclusively white organization. Then some colored people of Methodist persuasion, coming into Burlington and taking up residence in the neighborhood, began to attend the chapel. They were welcomed by the white people and became members of the church in regular standing. The colored membership increased until finally St. Mary Street M. E. Church became a colored organization in connection with the colored charge at Delair.

During all this time oversight of the affairs of the St. Mary Street Church continued in control of a board of trustees composed of members of Broad Street M. E. Church, which still held title to the property. In August 1919, when Rev. J. H. Blackiston was ministering to the congregation of St. Mary Street Church, the members of Broad Street M. E. Church who were acting as trustees began to withdraw from the board and their places were gradually taken by the colored members of St. Mary Street Church, until by October the entire board was composed of the following colored men: Perry Hynson, Draper A. Lee, William O. C. Johnson, Lewis Phillips, Perry Binn and William S. Warner. The Broad Street M. E. Church then passed the title to the property to this Board of Trustees as the legal representatives of St. Mary Street M. E. Church. Since that time the church has purchased a parsonage at the corner of Belmont and York Streets. The pastor in 1927 is Rev. C. Frederick Kershaw.

AFRICAN METHODIST ZION CHURCH, on South High Street, was founded in 1845. Their first little meeting house served them until 1898 when a more pretentious place of worship was erected. In 1922 it was entirely destroyed by fire. Undismayed by the disaster, the faithful congrega-



tion immediately planned for a new church edifice. The present neat and substantial structure is a monument to their energy and devotion.

THE SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH was founded in 1863 by some colored people of the Baptist faith, assisted by members of the First Baptist Church. The first house of worship was a little frame structure on Clarkson Street, near York, which had formerly been a school house. Within a few years the Second Baptist people erected a church edifice on South High Street, on the site of the present Memorial Hall. The estate of Joseph E. Taylor made an exchange of a Belmont Street lot and a substantial sum of money for the High Street site, and the edifice was moved to the new lot and enlarged and improved.

EBENEZER METHODIST CHURCH, the third colored congregation with Methodist leanings to be established in Burlington, had its origin in 1879. It was named in honor of Rev. Ebenezer B. Mann, of Woodbury, who was its first pastor. The membership was not large, and grew less. A few years ago they identified themselves with the St. Mary Street Methodist Episcopal Church.

THE SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH, on Conover Street, had its origin in the form of a mission when in the year 1890 a little band of six sincere men and women sought to study more earnestly the Word of God. The name Seventh Day Adventist distinguishes them from the popular churches by their proclamation of observing the Seventh day and their faith in the near coming of Christ.

In the furtherance of their purpose they organized a Sabbath School Department on October 25, 1890, in the home of William H. Long with eleven members, seven adults and four children. Elder D. E. Lindsey organized the church with six members, in Library Hall, on West

Union Street, on the 18th day of July, 1891. During the first nine years the membership increased to thirty-eight.

When, with the aid of evangelistic efforts the membership grew to fifty-four in the year 1915, it was thought advisable to have a church building. Mr. and Mrs. Beverly W. Lear donated a lot on Conover Street, and the bell. The cornerstone was laid the same year, and many faithful members assisted in the erection of the building, the cost of which was five thousand dollars. When finished it was entirely free of incumbrance. The dedicatory service was held April 23, 1916.

There has arisen from this little company a need for both a Polish and a colored church, known as Seventh Day Adventist Church No. 2, both of which have been organized and are living churches to-day.

The missionary spirit of the Seventh Day Adventists of Burlington is strong. Many of their young people have accepted various lines of missionary work in other cities. This has meant a decline in the local membership, which at this writing registers thirty-seven. One young man, Howard Lansing Shull, born and raised in Burlington, together with his bride, sailed as a missionary of the S. D. A. denomination to China on October 30, 1920. The offerings of this little body of enthusiastic people for foreign missions alone have aggregated more than fourteen hundred dollars. Their gifts for home missions have been correspondingly liberal.

TEMPLE B'NAI ISRAEL had its origin in 1907 when there were but few Jewish people in Burlington. The first meeting to consider the need for a place of worship was held at the residence of William Gardner, 311 High Street. An organization was effected by Nathan Worth, L. N. Kaplan, Morris Polivinick, William Gardner and E. A. Danetz. Services were held at first in a room provided by Jacob Ellis

on the second floor of the building on East Union Street, now occupied by the Connor Print Shop. Later on Grange Hall on Stacy Street was procured for a place of worship.

In 1915 Temple B'nai Israel was incorporated as an orthodox synagogue, with these officers: President, E. A. Danetz; Vice-President, Louis Rosenfeld; Treasurer, L. N. Kaplan; Secretary, Joseph S. Fox; Organizer, Joseph Aaronson; Trustees, William Gardner, Louis Levin, and M. Belopolsky. The historic Wall homestead, recently occupied by Edward J. Thomason, was purchased and the interior was remodeled to make it suitable for a place of worship. The first Rabbi to officiate in the Temple was Rev. Israel Sheaffer. The present trustees are Harry Polsky, William Gardner and Samuel Glassman. The present Rabbi is Rev. Hyman Soffer.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, the Polish parish of the Roman Catholic denomination in Burlington, was organized on March 10, 1910, by Rev. Andrew Szostakowski with a small body of communicants and but four dollars and twelve cents in the treasury. Father Szostakowski has been wonderfully successful in Burlington. In 1927 the parish property was valued at one hundred thousand dollars. In the first seventeen years of its history All Saints Church has purchased and enlarged the Hicksite Quaker Meeting House on South High Street, acquired the property north of it for a rectory and the property south of it as a site for the fine parochial school building erected in 1925, and a residence for the teachers of the school, the Bernardine Sisters, of Reading.

CHESA CHRISTIANA, a religious organization of Italian residents, established a church on South Wood Street a few years ago and attracted many adherents. Certain peculiarities about their method of worship have gained for them the name of "Holy Rollers."

## Burlington in Education

THE first mention of a school in Burlington is found in the minutes of the Friends Meeting of 11th mo. 7th, 1705, when a request that the privilege of keeping a school in the Meeting House was granted. There is no further information concerning this school, and no hint of the schoolmaster's name.

The Yearly Meeting in 1751 recommended Friends to consider the subject of establishing schools in the country and the Burlington Monthly Meeting of 1 of 5 mo. of that year made record, "that tho' it is very probable measures may hereafter be fallen upon to effect this good purpose within the verge of this meeting, yet Friends are not fully prepared for it at the present."

The subject of schools continued to be urged by the Yearly Meeting and in 1779 a Preparative Meeting School was established in a house on Broad Street (where the Baptist Church now stands), used by the Friends for purposes of worship in winter before an addition to the first Meeting House on High Street provided heat. A committee consisting of John Hoskins, Daniel Smith, George Dillwyn, George Bowne, Samuel Allinson and James Verree was appointed under the name of "Trustees of Friends' School in Burlington," to direct the affairs of the school. George Bowne was made clerk and Daniel Smith treasurer of this first board of school trustees in Burlington.

The school was continued in the Broad Street building, with an addition of two lodging rooms for the schoolmaster, until 1792. In that year the little brick schoolhouse, at Penn and York Streets, was erected. John Griscom, a young man just beginning his career, assumed charge of the school in 1794. He had but three pupils. The building



was packed with pupils long before he left Burlington, in 1807, to enter upon a wider field of labor in New York. He returned in 1837 to end his days in Burlington, and became actively interested in public school administration, as a member of the Board of Education.

Following this movement of the Friends Meeting other educational undertakings were begun in Burlington as individual enterprises; small private schools for primary education; others for young ladies where deportment and the social elegancies and accomplishments, along with a smattering from the textbooks, were taught; and academies for young gentlemen where serious classical training was given. There are no available records of the earliest of these private schools. There is a family tradition of an early language school for young men maintained by Michael Downey, a priest who is said to have abandoned celibacy and married. He returned to Ireland to procure additional textbooks for his school and never returned to America. The mystery of his disappearance was never cleared up. His family believed that he repented his lapse from vows of celibacy, or was disciplined by his church, and entered upon the monastic life. Some of his descendants are living in Philadelphia.

An interesting educational foundation in early days was the old Burlington Academy, erected in 1795 upon the present site of the new St. Marys Church, by subscriptions of prominent citizens of Burlington. Among them were Rev. Charles H. Wharton, the rector of St. Marys, Hon. Elias Boudinot, General Joseph Bloomfield, Joseph McIlvaine, William Coxe, Joshua Maddox Wallace, James Sterling, names which were long remembered and revered by the survivors of their generation. While they lived they were the trustees of the Academy. Dr. N. W. Cole and Charles Kinsey were afterward added to their number.

The lower rooms of the Academy building were occupied for school purposes, and the upper floor was thrown into an auditorium for miscellaneous public uses. At two successive periods the auditorium of the Academy served as a refuge for St. Marys parishoners while the church was under repair. The institution, a non-sectarian school, was a success from the start. Students came from distant states, especially from the South. For forty years it enjoyed distinction as a seat of learning in the days when opportunities for a liberal or even tolerable education were not abundant in this country.

The first principal of the Academy was Dr. William Staughton, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Burlington. He was succeeded by John Michael Hanckel, a talented young man of classical acquirements and high character. In addition to his labors in the school he attempted to prepare himself for the practice of the law, broke down his health and died. In the northeast corner of St. Marys Churchyard, where he was buried, there stands a marble slab erected by the trustees of the Academy attesting their estimate of his worth. A tablet of Italian marble attached to the headstone is ornamented with a sculptor's daring representation of the disembodied soul ascending to Heaven in a cloud of glory, and underneath it the words, "Blissful reality of my hopes." More than a century of exposure to the elements has made sad inroads on the once exquisite sculpture.

John Michael Hanckel was succeeded, as principal of the Academy, by his brother, Charles Hanckel, who after a brief term left the school to enter the ministry. Prof. Henry Vethake followed and after him came William Woodbridge, a well known compiler of certain textbooks and maps for the use of schools. Woodbridge's successor, Rev. Jonathan Price, afterward had a romantic career. He became a mis-

sionary in the East, to the Court of Burmah and died in prison a martyr to the cause of Christianity. Rev. Elias Crane succeeded him and after a brief reign was followed by the last of the principals, Prof. Cleanthus Felt.

In that early day, as in ours, the young were ever ready to welcome change. There came a period when business and population in Burlington began to ebb. Old families died off or moved away, or sent their scions to other activities of life. But few candidates for honors remained at the old Academy, and the day arrived when the old schoolmaster, Prof. Felt, dropped his volume of Horace into his pocket, gathered his cloak about him, and left the forsaken building never to return.

It was about this time that John Gummere, Burlington's most famous schoolmaster, opened his classical Academy on East Union Street, in a building now converted into the two dwelling houses Nos. 216 and 218. This school was unequaled in its day. Its pupils were sons of leading citizens, and many young men from the West India Islands, the sons of wealthy planters. The Gummere Academy was famous for the lectures delivered from time to time on chemistry, natural philosophy and other subjects. They were open to the public, and it was considered the proper thing to attend them.

John Gummere was born at Willow Grove, Pa., September 9, 1784, and died in Burlington May 31, 1845. He was a member of the Society of Friends and his early training was shaped in accordance with its precepts. At the West Town Boarding School he was the pupil of Enoch Lewis, a celebrated mathematician. After finishing his course of study Gummere began teaching. He followed that profession for forty years, first at Horsham, Pa., then at Rancocas, N. J., West Town Boarding School, Chester County, Pa., and in Burlington from 1814 to 1833, when

he was called to the presidency of Haverford. He remained ten years at Haverford and then returned to Burlington where he continued to teach until his death. While Mr. Gummere was at Haverford his Academy in Burlington was conducted by the Rev. Messrs. Aaron and Green.

John Gummere's position in the scientific world of his day was no mean one. He was a Fellow of the American Philosophical Society, and a corresponding member of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia. His treatise on Surveying ran through fourteen editions and his Astronomy through six editions.

Samuel R. Gummere, brother of John Gummere, was one of his early colleagues, and was really the founder of the girls' school from which St. Marys Hall was the outgrowth. In 1829 he erected a part of the building now occupied by that institution and conducted a girls' school there. In 1836 he sold the property to Bishop Doane. This transaction closed his career as a teacher. He afterward became clerk of the Court of Chancery of New Jersey, and held that office two terms. He died in September 1865, and lies nearly side by side with his brother, John Gummere, in the burying ground of the Burlington Friends Meeting.

Samuel J. Gummere, son of John Gummere, was his father's successor in the Academy in Burlington. He possessed all of his father's qualifications in a marked degree. His extreme modesty was remembered long after his death in 1874. The school was managed by him from 1845 to 1862 when he was called to the presidency of Haverford College, where he remained until his death. Coincidentally, or perhaps before this, there labored in this school Samuel Aaron, who at one time was pastor of the First Baptist Church, Charles Atherton and William Dennis. Mr. Dennis also conducted a private school of his own on High Street for several years.



Charles Walters took over the Gummere Academy and conducted a school there until some time after the close of the Civil War. The patronage drifted away to rival schools in other sections, and this once renowned institution became one of the many memories of which Burlington may feel justly proud. The last of the more notable private schools of later days was conducted by Miss Margaret Haines, for primary education, in the old brick school house at York and Penn Streets, and later by Mrs. Henry S. Haines in the Masonic Hall.

The early acquired fame of Burlington as an educational center was augmented when Bishop Doane founded St. Marys Hall and Burlington College. He had long been impressed with the great need for a church school for girls. In 1836 he bought the buildings on the river bank where Samuel R. Gummere had conducted an academy for girls, and on May 1, 1837, St. Marys Hall, the mother of church schools in the United States, was opened under the supervision of its founder. For a school of its size and cost it attracted wide attention at the time it was founded. An article in the *English Ecclesiologist* in 1854 referred to St. Marys Hall as a school "of peculiar importance, being the virtual cathedral of the Diocese."

The Hall had its struggles. It was opened in a year of financial depression. At one time there were but twenty-six pupils. Subscriptions towards the endowment fund ceased, and receipts from tuition fees were for several years below the cost of maintenance. With the return of prosperity prospects improved for St. Marys. In 1849 there were one hundred and forty-three pupils, but the school was in debt.

ST. MARYS HALL was a personal undertaking of Bishop Doane; it was his private property; and he had endowed it with his own services and all that he possessed. He turned for aid to the trustees of Burlington College, who were

prominent in the community and the diocese. They issued an appeal for subscriptions "to all who desire to promote the work of Christian education, and especially churchmen, to come forward at the present critical, and yet, most favorable moment." Governor Haines, Hon. Charles C. Stratton and the Hon. William Wright were appointed to raise subscriptions, and in 1854 they reported that \$142,709.50 had been subscribed of which sum \$106,732.50 came from New Jersey. Other subscriptions were from New York City, Boston, Cleveland, Philadelphia, Troy, Lansingburg and Albany, N. Y.; Washington, D. C.; and Connecticut.

The school then became the property of the Board of Trustees, of which the Bishop was a member, and he was left in supreme control of the institution of his creation. Bishop Doane did not long survive this period of faithful labor and struggle for the survival of an ideal. The Rev. Elvin K. Smith, who had been the associate of the Bishop, was then made Rector and Principal of St. Marys and continued in control until 1879.

This was a period of prosperity for St. Marys Hall. The student roll increased until the buildings were crowded uncomfortably, and scores of applicants were declined for want of room. Enlargement was resolved upon. In 1868 Doane Hall was erected, providing a library, dining room, schoolrooms, and dormitories for nearly one hundred pupils. When the Hall opened for the school year in October 1868 the capacity of the school had been increased to two hundred and fifty pupils.

Rev. John Leighton McKim succeeded Mr. Smith. He resigned in 1887 and Miss Julia McAllister became the principal. Under her administration the home life of the school was made the prominent feature it had been under Bishop Doane.

When Miss McAllister resigned to take the headship

of Miss Reed's school in New York City, in 1890, Miss Charlotte Titcomb assumed the principalship and introduced a college preparatory course, a change from the original purpose of St. Marys which was to complete the instruction of the pupils before they went out into the world. Miss Titcomb resigned in 1900, on account of ill health, and the trustees returned to the original system of a clerical head for St. Marys.

Rev. John Fearnley was called from his parish in Louisiana to the rectorship, and Mrs. Fearnley (who as Miss Beulah Starkey had been the German and English teacher under Miss Titcomb) became the principal. Under their care St. Marys Hall flourished. There was a gratifying growth of interest among former graduates, and funds were provided for the erection of Scarborough Hall and other additions and improvements. Mr. and Mrs. Fearnley resigned after twenty-five years of constructive work and the Hall was placed under the care of the Sisters of the Transfiguration with Sister Edith Constance, Principal; Sister Ada Frances, Assistant Principal; Sister Ethel Bertha, Assistant in Charge. At the close of the school year in May 1927 the Sisters turned to other activities of their order and Miss Ethel M. Spurr, who as Vice Principal of Berkeley Institute, Brooklyn, had won recognition for her ability and scholarship, was made Principal. Miss Spurr is a Radcliffe graduate with the B.A. degree, and received her M.A. degree at Columbia University.

BURLINGTON COLLEGE, with its quaint atmosphere of old-world academic standards and customs, was the materialized dream of its founder and president, Bishop Doane, who was one of the most accomplished scholars of his day.

It was an audacious undertaking. From a scholastic point of view Burlington College was ahead of the educational institutions of its day and of many later days. One

who knew it well has written of it: "With a material framework of the slenderest description, that is to say without such endowments, buildings, libraries, and apparatus as are supposed necessary for a successful college, it yet produced for a number of years young men liberally educated, and as fully equipped for professional study as the graduates of any other college in this land. In classics and English the alumni of Burlington College were unrivalled among American college bred men. They entered the great English universities with ease and found a congenial home and honors quickly within their reach. In what it actually accomplished and in what it can show for having been, Burlington College is probably without a parallel."

Its students read Greek and Latin authors, not by dribbets but in their entirety. In some of the classes translations were made from ancient authors into French, Spanish, Italian and German, no English being used, and thus the student was taught to think in modern and ancient languages. No author was ever laid aside until every line that he had written was finished by the class. In the *belles lettres* class students were compelled on certain occasions to deliver original speeches in the languages, and thus acquired familiarity with them. The Greek drama was produced in the long dining room of Burlington College thirty years before Harvard followed and copied the Burlington precedent.

Burlington College was a quaint institution outside of its scholarly habits. The students wore the Oxford cap and gown, not only in the college grounds but wherever they went in the city limits. If Burlington had not been the quietest sort of town this would have occasioned many a row "twixt town and gown." As it was, one student was arrested and tried for the alleged murder of a town boy in a scuffle on the ice. Yet the college was deeply religious, and Latin chants were among the features of its daily exercises.



At Christmas time the college went back to the middle ages for the features of its Yuletide festivities. On Christmas night the boar's head, crowned with rosemary, was solemnly carried into chapel by a couple of graduates and the students, rising with cap in hand, sang an ancient refrain.

The Fourth of July celebrations at the college were ceremonial events. The procession of teachers and pupils from St. Marys Hall marched to the doorway of "Riverside," the Episcopal residence, before which stood the rector and professors of the college all in academic gowns, Oxford caps, and hoods of their several degrees, the college boys in gray military uniforms with banners and muskets and martial music, and the imposing form of the Bishop in gown and scarlet hood, the central figure, just outside the doorway. One of the students stepped to the front and center, greeted the Bishop in a neat speech to which he made appropriate reply. The singing of "America," by the united assemblage, the military parade of collegians on the campus, and the reception to the teachers of St. Marys Hall by the college faculty closed the exercises for the day. This ceremony was observed with little variance in its form as a feature of Independence Day in Burlington until the early seventies.

After Bishop Doane established St. Marys Hall for girls, in 1837, there came an insistent demand from parents in the Diocese and elsewhere that he should become the preceptor of their sons. In 1846 a charter granting full academic power of conferring degrees was obtained from the Legislature of New Jersey. The first recorded meeting of the trustees of Burlington College was held at "Riverside," the Episcopal residence in Burlington, on March 16, 1846. The charter was presented and Rev. Benjamin I. Haight was elected the first rector. On May 7, following, the property of Mrs. Rebecca Chester, known as "Green Lawn," with its commodious buildings was purchased for

twenty thousand dollars and was remodeled for the purposes of the institution.

The preparatory school was opened and a course of studies for the school and college was adopted. The plan of Burlington College comprised the Six Forms of the great English schools with the class grouping of the American college, in a household under one roof, with a common table, and common daily worship. A boy could thus be taken in extreme youth and carried on, without interruption of associations, to his graduation as a Bachelor of Arts. Bishop Doane described it as "education on the domestic plan under religious principles."

Here again a great educational institution was the personal undertaking of Bishop Doane. The Board of Trustees made him President and granted him permission and authority to occupy the property of "Green Lawn" without rent or interest and to "organize and carry on the school or college for the space of ten years at his own risk and for his own benefit." Dr. Haight resigned during the first year. In 1847-48 additions were made to the original buildings and the institution was fully organized with ninety-nine resident pupils and nine day pupils. In 1849 a bequest of two thousand dollars was received from the estate of Miss Rachel B. Wallace for the support of theological students. In that year the roll of the College contained the names of one hundred and thirty-six pupils, one hundred and thirteen of them resident.

A moral triumph had been gained. The great needs were grounds, buildings, library and apparatus. For years Bishop Doane pleaded for the material support which his great work justified. Pupils were plentiful, scholarship was of the highest, but the few thousand dollars needed to save the institution were lacking. This was the situation when Bishop Doane, hastened to his death by his labors, passed

to his reward. With his last report he pleaded, "If God shall put it into the hearts of Christian men to endow the Professorships of English Literature, Ancient Languages and Mathematics, with \$20,000 each, the College may be considered, if He please, a perpetuity."

After the death of the Bishop measure after measure was taken to bolster up the financial resources of the College, but year after year there was a steadily growing deficit. Academically the institution was priceless; financially it was a failure; and its appeal to the stewardship of Christian men and women of wealth failed of results. Its fortunes fluctuated until at the meeting of the Board of Trustees on November 14, 1877, the Executive Committee reported "that the prospects at the beginning of the year were so poor that there seemed no likelihood of it being able to pay its current expenses, and hence it was not thought advisable to open it." The College remained closed.

On December 20, 1878, the buildings and furniture were leased to Rev. T. M. Reilly, of Camden, who conducted a military academy for two years as a private venture. Rev. Charles W. Duane then took it over but relinquished it in 1892 when he failed to receive a paying patronage. In 1893 Rev. J. M. Williams, D.D., rented the property and conducted a school that promised well. It ended with his death in 1895. Rev. C. E. O. Nichols was the last schoolmaster to reign at this old seat of learning. He opened a school in 1896, known as Burlington Academy. It survived but four years. On April 26, 1902, the Thomas Devlin Manufacturing Company purchased the property and it is now a part of their West Burlington plant.

ST. MARYS PARISH SCHOOL had an earlier beginning than that with which it is usually credited. Its history really dates back to 1714 when a school was begun by a master sent by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Amer-



ica, Rowland Ellis, whose descendants were long prominent in the church and social life of Burlington. This school seems to have languished and died. It was re-established in 1847, soon after Bishop Doane came to Burlington, when Sarah Payne Cleveland founded a parish school for girls with thirty-one pupils. This was the second school of the kind in the Diocese. Trinity Church, Princeton, had the first.

The pupils in the parish school were taught the ordinary branches of an English education with Bible lessons, catechism and plain sewing. The sessions were at first held in a large upper room of what was long known as the Rogers Building, on East Broad Street (now the Rosenfeld department store). The girls wore as a distinguishing mark blue gingham sunbonnets in summer and blue hoods in winter, and attended daily service in the parish church.

The first teacher was Miss Eliza J. Coakley, who was born on the Island of St. John, one of the Virgin Islands of the Lesser Antilles. She remained in charge ten or twelve years, when she became a Deaconess in the Diocese of Long Island and was known as Sister Eliza. The Misses Olden, Gill and Wagner followed in turn and were succeeded by Miss Blackney (Mrs. H. L. Clarke) under whose care the school numbered eighty pupils.

In 1854, after old St. Marys had been restored and enlarged, a school for boys was begun by Mr. Samuel Seaman. This was held in the west end of the church and the girls occupied the east end. Miss Blackney resigned in 1856 or 1857 when Miss Forgress (Mrs. George H. Woolman) took charge and united the two schools. Miss Forgress continued teaching until 1870. She was succeeded by the Misses Mary and Hepzibah Rogers who continued the work until 1875, when the school was closed during the restoration of the old church.



The parish school reopened in 1876 with Miss Mary Thomason Kingdon as teacher. In 1888 Miss Kingdon resigned and Miss Oli Coughlin assumed the care of the school for two years. She was succeeded by Miss Mary Coxe Boyer (Mrs. Charles D. Gauntt). After nine years of successful teaching Miss Boyer resigned. Miss Eloise Hewitt accepted the position and taught until 1902. Her sister, Miss Eleanor Hewitt, followed for a brief period. The school passed into the care of Miss Florence Eyre who remained in charge until 1926, when the present instructress, Mrs. Anna R. Parsons, took charge.

VAN RENSSELAER SEMINARY, a church school whose discontinuance a few years ago was a distinct loss to the cause of Christian education in Burlington, was established under the personal supervision and patronage of Dr. Courtlandt Van Rensselaer, the first pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Burlington. On February 22, 1853, the school was taken by request under the care of the Session. Dr. Van Rensselaer died in 1860 leaving in his will a certain sum of money as an endowment for the educational institution he had founded.

Van Rensselaer Seminary has had a long line of able teachers. The first instructress was Miss Anna Price, assisted by her sister, Rebecca. Then followed Miss Boozer, Miss Kirkpatrick and Miss Emily Smith. After the reorganization in 1875, with Miss Helen M. Freeman as Principal, and Miss Selina A. Rule, Associate Principal, the school was lifted to a high plane educationally. Among its graduates we find Col. Franklin W. D'Olier, Dr. Courtlandt Van Rensselaer Hodge, Dr. John W. Churchman, Prof. Philip W. Churchman, of Clark University, Prof. Walter Wright, Kitty Balestier (now Mrs. Rudyard Kipling), and other men and women prominent in the work of the church and the world. Van Rensselaer Academy stood for an ideal

that seems to elude the viewpoint of the world to-day. The distinguished place it occupied is recognized by thoughtful men and women. Prof. L. J. Sherrill, of the Theological Seminary of Louisville, Kentucky, recently journeyed to Burlington to examine the records and make a study of the history of this school.

ST. PAULS PAROCHIAL SCHOOL was established in 1870 during the pastorate of Rev. Michael Kirwan, who reconstructed the basement of the church for its accommodation. The first teacher was P. P. Cantwell, father of the late Monsignor William Cantwell, of Perth Amboy. Other lay teachers following him were Mr. Keogh, Miss McCullough, and Miss McCaffrey. Father Kirwan replaced the lay teachers by the Franciscan Sisters, who were succeeded by the Sisters of Mercy under the pastorate of Rev. Patrick Tracey. They are still in charge of the school. In 1904 the present school building on East Broad Street was erected by Rev. Henry Russi. Only the elementary branches are taught in this school.

To give pupils an academic, secretarial, or business course, as they might select, Sancta Maria Academy, on East Union Street, was opened by Father Russi in 1917. During the ten years of its existence this school has made a record which is unsurpassed by any church school conducted along the same educational lines. Many of its graduates are now filling important positions in the business world, while others are pursuing studies and meeting with marked success in colleges.

ALL SAINTS PAROCHIAL SCHOOL is the latest of the church schools established in Burlington. In preparation for this need of his Polish parish, Rev. Andrew Szostakowski raised the funds and began the construction of a fine school building, adjoining the church edifice on South High Street. The building was first occupied during the summer

of 1927 when a school was conducted to prepare the children of the parish for their first communion. In September following, the parochial school was opened, in charge of the Bernardine Sisters, of Reading.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS. The founding of a free school system in Burlington was almost contemporary with the settlement of the town. Within five years after the coming of the ship *Kent* the General Assembly made a grant of Matinicum Island (now Burlington Island) to the town of Burlington that its revenues might support a free school.

The ownership of the island, which was disputed for years, the source of the city's title, and the purpose for which it was dedicated, are indicated by the following paragraph from the Colonial laws of 1682:

"Act VIII. And for the encouragement of learning, and for the better education of youth: Be it hereby enacted and agreed by the Assembly aforesaid, that the island called Makinicum (afterwards Matinicum), late in the possession of Robert Stacy, with all and every appurtenances is hereby given, and from henceforth and forever hereafter be, and remain to and for the town of Burlington and for others concerned therein within the 1st and 2nd tenths, the rents, issues and profits thereof and therefrom to be employed for the maintenance of a school for the education of youth within the said town and on the 1st and 2nd tenths."

For nearly a half century no effort was made to commercialize the island and to carry out the purpose for which the grant had been made. This may have been due to uncertainty as to the validity of the town's title to its mid-river possession. The right of the General Assembly to make the grant had been disputed by the West Jersey Proprietors, and the townspeople feared that some disposition might be made of the island at variance with the purpose of



the Act of 1682. When that fear proved groundless attention was paid to at least one of the provisions of the grant. The appointment of "seven persons to inspect, inquire and manage the island" was made by the town meeting of March 29, 1727.

It was not until forty years after the appointment of this first Board of Island Managers that an attempt was made to set up a free school system in Burlington. In March, 1767, the town meeting appointed a committee to draw up a plan for a free school. Their report, two months later, recommended the establishing of a school, to be known as the Burlington Free School, restricted to the education of orphan children and those whose parents were not able to pay for their schooling. Until the revenues from the island permitted the erection of a school house, the pupils were placed in the private schools of the town.

In 1805 a two story brick school house, the first public school building in Burlington, was erected at Broad and St. Mary Streets on the present property of St. Barnabas Church, and the children of rich and poor alike were offered the opportunity for a free education. The school roster lengthened and in 1821 a little frame meeting house at the angle of Library Street, erected some thirty years earlier by the Methodists and abandoned when they built a more commodious structure on the Broad Street front of the lot, was rented for school purposes.

In 1846 the Stacy Street School (abandoned in 1899) was erected; in 1856 the St. Mary Street School (now the Captain James Lawrence building); in 1866 the William R. Allen School for colored children; in 1878 the James Fenimore Cooper School; in 1888 the Stephen Grellet School in East Burlington; in 1899 the Elias Boudinot School on West Union Street. Concurrently with the erection of the Boudinot School came the enlargement and



remodeling of the Lawrence, Allen, Cooper and Grellet Schools.

Soon after this year of progress and development, in 1910, a High School, as part of the Burlington system, was established under the principalship of Miss Anna Reed, (Mrs. M. W. Newcomb), and occupied a portion of the Lawrence building. This provision for higher education became popular and the Robert Stacy building was erected to meet its growing demands. In 1919 the Samuel Smith School in Farnerville, (enlarged in 1926 to twice its original size), was erected. By 1921 the Robert Stacy building was found inadequate and the present Wilbur Watts High School building was erected in 1922 at a cost of a quarter of a million dollars. A Junior High School department was then introduced and placed in the Stacy building. In 1926 it was found necessary to enlarge the Junior High School building by surmounting it with another story and by the addition of a ground floor extension.

The Burlington public school system with its fine equipment valued at seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars, its teaching staff of ninety instructors, its enrolment of twenty-five hundred pupils, including in its High School hundreds of graduates from the grade schools in neighboring towns and townships, and its academic standing, unsurpassed in many respects by other school systems in the State, has restored to Burlington the prestige held in earlier years as the educational center of Burlington County.

The Board of Education is appointed by the Mayor. Its members are (in 1927) Walter E. Robb, President; W. R. Conard, Arthur Lowden, Frank H. Wood and Howard Eastwood. W. Edward Ridgway, Secretary.

Three of the former preceptors in the public schools of Burlington stand out prominently in the memory of the pupils of a half century and more ago and must be reckoned

as the most constructive factors in the period preceding the development of later years: Edwin Haas, the brilliant mathematician, principal of the Boys' Grammar Department prior to and during Civil War times; Miss Martha Watts, a rarely resourceful principal of the Girls' Grammar Department, preceptress of many who became capable teachers themselves; and that most famous and beloved schoolmaster of them all, Prof. Wilbur Watts, a graduate under Edwin Haas, a daring cavalryman in the Civil War, a talented professor of mathematics in Charles Walters' private academy and, as principal of the Boys' Grammar Department and Supervising Principal, an instructor in the public school system of Burlington for fifty years. The Wilbur Watts High School, named for him, is a fitting memorial of the man who moulded the minds of so many of Burlington's most useful citizens. The record of teachers in the early days includes such worthy names as Rowland Ellis, Professor Pike, William Lowden, Robert Pitman, William F. Smith, Lewis A. Ridge, Priscilla Braislin, Julia Budden and Eliza J. Thomas. The present Supervising Principal is Mr. Vann H. Smith.

## Burlington In War

**I**F Burlington had any part in the first wars of our fathers, the Colonial Wars, it is not a matter of record. The raising of troops was frowned upon by the Society of Friends, who constituted a large part of Burlington's population, and those among them who favored the bearing of arms or engaged in it were disciplined by the society.

When war was declared between England and France, in 1744, it is probable that there were high spirited young men of that generation in Burlington who served in support of the mother country, but the knowledge of it has been hidden away from historians among family papers.

New Jersey raised five hundred men to march against the French and Indians in 1755. Four hundred were sent to the defense of Easton during the winter of that year. When Montcalm besieged Fort Oswego with the French Canadians and Indians, half of the New Jersey regiment were made prisoners and sent to Canada. When he invested Fort William Henry on the shore of Lake George, in 1757, New Jersey promptly despatched one thousand men to the scene of conflict.

Troops from New Jersey were in the attack upon Ticonderoga in 1758. New Jersey's complement of one thousand men was kept up during the years 1758, 1759, 1760. In the years 1761 and 1762 the State furnished six hundred men and, in the latter year a company for garrison duty.

Hostilities continued until 1764. When the savages approached the Delaware, massacring families, Governor William Franklin, then living in Burlington, ordered out the militia, and eight hundred men from New Jersey were among the forces under General Bradstreet which reached Niagara and compelled the Indians to make peace. Surely

there must have been red-blooded young men from Burlington in the ranks of these contingents, but unfortunately their names and number have not come down to us.

During the period thus hurriedly sketched barracks were built at Burlington, Trenton, New Brunswick, Amboy and Elizabeth, by order of the Assembly, when Sir William Pitt called upon the colonies in America, in 1758, for support. Each barracks accommodated three hundred men. The Burlington barracks stood at the junction of East Broad Street and Assiscunk Creek, on the site of old St. Pauls R. C. Church.

In those days the creek was crossed by a ford a short distance south of Broad Street. The barracks was built to defend this ford, and from 1758 to 1776 the British Government kept it constantly garrisoned with troops. Early in the Revolutionary War it was one of their many military posts in America. When the red coats were driven out of New Jersey by Washington's masterly movements at Trenton and Princeton and Monmouth, the barracks was confiscated as crown property and used as quarters for Patriot troops and for storing munitions of war.

It was not until the Stamp Act, and other baneful and tyrannical oppressions and suppressions by the British Government aroused a spirit in America which terminated in armed resistance, that Burlington first felt the breath of war. Standard histories do not mention that the town was occupied by Hessians in early Revolutionary days, that it was bombarded twice from war boats in the Delaware, once in December, 1776, by the Americans to dislodge the Hessians, and again in May, 1778, by the British during their occupancy of Philadelphia. These were but trifling events in the great drama of war.

In 1776 the British had complete possession of New Jersey. Their troops occupied territory from Burlington,



Bordentown and Mount Holly to Princeton, New Brunswick and Amboy. Because of its situation, lying between sections in possession of the enemy, Burlington County was over-run by Hessians and British grenadiers, and became the theatre of skirmishes and foraging expeditions. Burlington's initial experience of the ugly side of war came when Count Donop marched into the town at the head of four hundred Hessians on the morning of December 11, 1776, intending to remain all winter, and was driven out before night by a bombardment from American gunboats lying in the Delaware. The Americans then landed searching parties. From day to day they hunted out persons who were disloyal to the Patriot cause, and the Tories in the town were kept in a constant state of terror.

On the 19th of December a heavy snow storm almost stopped navigation and drove the war galleys down river, but they were back again on the 23d and on the 26th, the night of Washington's achievement at Trenton, a large fleet of gondolas, galleys and flat bottomed boats passed up the river to Bordentown and points beyond. Washington had planned crossing the Delaware at two points, one by himself just above Trenton, the other by General Cadwalader with fifteen hundred men at Burlington. Cadwalader found himself unable to make the crossing at the appointed time. Believing that Washington had passed into Pennsylvania he crossed to Burlington on December 27, 1776, quartered on the town that night, and joined Washington on the 29th at Trenton.

The Hessians remained near Burlington until after the battle of Trenton, but the Americans had full possession of the river and commanded the situation at Burlington. Their war galleys armed with cannon moved up and down the river watching for the enemy, protecting the Patriots from

plunder, and preventing the Hessians levying contributions on their Tory friends.

Although Washington's brilliant victories at Trenton and Princeton, and his vigilance and enterprise while in winter quarters at Morristown had driven the enemy from New Jersey, many stragglers from the British army passed through Burlington County, sometimes as many as a hundred of them at a time. The situation became worse in September 1777 when Lord Howe and his army of Hessians and British grenadiers entered and occupied Philadelphia. Patriots suffered persecution from Tory neighbors who were emboldened by the momentary success of the British; and frequent incursions of small parties of enemy troops were made into New Jersey, raiding up and down the highway from Burlington to Bridgeton. Light Horse Harry Lee came dashing through Burlington one spring morning in that year and scattered a group of marauding Hessians who had taken up quarters in front of the Bradford house, on West Broad Street.

But more was to follow. On the morning of May 8, 1778, an expedition consisting of two row-galleys, three other armed vessels, and twenty-four flat bottomed boats, with about seven hundred British troops, ascended the Delaware. When they passed Burlington a hastily assembled squad of militiamen followed them along the shore, with increasing numbers as they advanced until there were a hundred patriots in pursuit, annoying the enemy squadron whenever it came within range of rifle fire.

Vessels which had been engaged in the defense of Fort Mifflin, and others that had been commenced above Philadelphia but were not complete when the British gained control of the Delaware, were lying at Bordentown. Washington had directed that they be sunk, but this had not been done. The capture of these vessels was the object of the

British expedition. The people at White Hill, learning of the approach of the British, set fire to the Continental ships and destroyed them. Piqued at being balked in their purpose, and to punish the people of Bordentown for an attempt to destroy the British ships at Philadelphia by sending floating bombs made of kegs down the river, an exploit described in Francis Hopkinson's Revolutionary ballad, "The Battle of the Kegs," the enemy drew up in front of the town and began a cowardly bombardment of Bordentown. They also plundered and robbed the houses of Judge Joseph Borden and Col. Joseph Kirkbride.

The ambitious effort of the militiamen who had followed and fired upon the invading fleet in the morning provoked a revengeful attack on Burlington when the British war vessels returned down river in the afternoon. As the fleet passed the town several shots were fired from a cannon in the bow of a large sloop which maneuvered in front of the town wharf, but head winds made frequent tacking necessary and the bombardment was ineffective beyond terrorizing the inhabitants.

No further military events of any note occurred in Burlington during the later years of the war. Nearly five hundred Burlington County men served in the ranks of the Continental army and New Jersey militia. The record may be found in the Adjutant General's office in Trenton. Among the names of Burlington men are Joseph Bloomfield, who served as a captain in the Continental Army and became Governor of the State in later years; Col. Bowes Reed, who served as the first Mayor of Burlington under the act of incorporation of 1784; Captain Abel Wayne, Major James Sterling, Sergeant Frederick Lowden, Daniel Burns, Robert Yeates, Ralph Price, and John Wood. Doubtless many others from Burlington are on that roster but identification is difficult in this late day.

There are no available records of the services of the State militia in the War of 1812-14. When the British captured Washington and burned the capitol the national records were destroyed and requisitions were made upon State records to take their place. We know that Burlington County furnished a battalion which served from September 19 to December 22, 1814, and was stationed at Billingsport. This battalion had two majors. One of them was John Larzalere, who became Mayor of Burlington a score of years later. Other men in that command from this city cannot be identified, but there is no doubt that they were there.

A published statement is found that a New Jersey battalion entered the service of the United States in the war with Mexico, but that no company was raised in Burlington County. In the files of the *Burlington Gazette* of the middle forties we find a news story of a company of sixty men, recruited in Burlington by Captain Wallace Collet, who took them to Mexico in 1847. When they arrived the war had ended. Collet was killed in a duel while in Mexico. His remains were brought to Burlington and now lie in St. Marys churchyard.

The response of Burlington to the call for volunteers to suppress the rebellion in 1861 was instant, ardent and continuous. Burlington gave to the armies of the North approximately five hundred men, more than one third of the registration of voters, an enlistment, in proportion to population, unmatched—at least unsurpassed—by any other city in the State. The record of these men, the most of whom enlisted in New Jersey regiments, some in regiments of other states, and in the Navy, is found in the Adjutant General's office in Trenton.

Lincoln's first call to arms was made on April 15, 1861. Recruiting began in Burlington at once. Twelve days later, on April 2, 1861, Co. K, Fourth Regiment, New Jersey



Volunteers, with seventy-five enlisted men, marched away under Capt. George C. Burling. E. Burd Grubb was Second Lieutenant of Co. C, and Leander Brewin was adjutant of the regiment.

Recruiting continued. Two months later, Co. C, Third New Jersey, with seventy-five men under Captain Joseph F. Rowand, started for the front. Before August 1st Captain Burling and the survivors of his three months' men were at home because of expiration of their term of service, but a month later he was on his way to the front again with one hundred and one men of Co. F, Sixth Regiment of New Jersey, enlisted for three years. Joseph Hays was Second Lieutenant of this company and Jesse Coggsell was First Sergeant. Hays later became Captain and Coggsell was promoted to the Second Lieutenancy.

What a splendid place the Sixth holds in New Jersey history. This regiment of fighting men served four years instead of the three for which they had enlisted, and participated in every engagement of the Army of the Potomac, except Antietam, when it was left in West Virginia because of the terrible losses it sustained at the second battle of Bull Run. Seven days after the departure of Co. F, on September 7, 1861, Captain Wesley Horner, with forty Burlington men became a part of Co. H, Fifty-seventh, New York.

Nearly a million men were in the field defending the integrity of the Union before the close of 1862, but never during the course of the whole conflict were the prospects of ultimate success so gloomy. The Confederate Army was then greater in numbers and efficiency than at any previous or subsequent period of the war. Lee's invasion of Virginia portended a crisis. Lincoln issued a call for three hundred thousand additional troops.

Burlington arose to meet it. On September 9, 1862,

Captain Clift and forty Burlington men made up the complement of Co. B, Twelfth New Jersey. There were three members of one family in this company, the father, John Spencer, and his two sons, William and John Jr., both of whom were killed, William at Chancellorsville, and John Jr. at Gettysburg.

Within a week after Co. B marched away Captain Francis W. Milnor had recruited seventy-five men, and on September 16, 1862, they were mustered into service as Co. A, of the Twenty-third New Jersey. Milnor was promoted Major and Lieutenant Colonel; Edward Rigg was Second Lieutenant of Co. A, and became First Lieutenant of Co. G; E. Burd Grubb was Second Lieutenant of Co. C, and subsequently became commander of the regiment. The Twenty-third was known as the "Yahoos" after General Torbet called them by that name when they were making too much noise after "taps"—a name that was to become famous as the designation of a unit of valorous men commanded by that intrepid leader, Col. E. Burd Grubb.

During that same month, a number of Burlington men enlisted in Co. A, of the Corn Exchange Guards, of Philadelphia, an organization recruited for the emergency of Antietam and discharged soon after McClellan's victory. It was commanded by B. Lloyd James, of Burlington, and Joseph E. Taylor, another well-known Burlington man, was one of its lieutenants. There were Burlington men also in Companies A, C, and D, of the Thirty-fourth Regiment of New Jersey Infantry.

The Thirty-seventh New Jersey, "Grubb's Game Chickens," organized under the call of President Lincoln for immediate service, marched away June 28, 1864, in command of Col. E. Burd Grubb. There were many Burlington men in its ranks. The Adjutant was Parker Grubb, a brother of the Colonel. He died in the trenches during the siege

of Petersburg. The Quartermaster was J. Warner Kinsey, and Jonathan W. Maguire was First Lieutenant of Co. H. For meritorious services in that memorable siege Col. Grubb was made Brevet Major General of Volunteers.

Under the call of July, 1864, for five hundred thousand men, the Fortieth New Jersey was recruited, the term of enlistment to be one, two and three years. In the Fortieth we find John W. Goodenough, Captain of Co. K; Joseph F. Mount, Second Lieutenant of Co. C; Samuel Phillips, Second Lieutenant of Co. D; James Phillips, Second Lieutenant of Co. E; and George A. Beldin, Second Lieutenant in another company.

In the First, Second and Third Cavalry, the Sixteenth, Thirty-second and Thirty-sixth Regiments of the line, Co. C, of the First Cavalry was raised in Burlington County, and Co. F, in Burlington and Ocean Counties. Men from Burlington city were enrolled in the ranks of both companies.

The foregoing is but a cold summary of the number of men, their commanders, and the commands to which they were attached, who left Burlington from 1861 to 1864 and passed through the fiery ordeal that purified the nation. What of the numberless acts of personal heroism and high daring, deeds done to rescue a comrade from peril, sacrifices made to save the colors from capture, to retrieve a critical situation, or undertaken in the same spirit of emprise which prompted the mailed knight of medieval days to make his life the stake for the empty gain of glory?

The limits of this volume will not permit the inclusion of all the individual acts of heroism of Burlington men in Civil War days. The writer offers but four of the many battle legends he has heard told around the campfire of Parker Grubb Post No. 16, G. A. R.

At the second battle of Bull Run, Co. F, the Burlington

contingent of the Sixth New Jersey, attached to Hooker's Division of the Third Army Corps, took part in a gallant charge upon the Confederate line which was sheltered behind an old railroad embankment. The Sixth was repulsed by the terrific fire of the concealed Confederates. In the confusion of falling back the colors became entangled in an old fence and were left hanging there. The Confederates saw the prize and meant to capture it.

Sergeant Richard Conners, of Co. F, and a half dozen Burlington boys, ran back in the face of a galling fire to rescue the colors. Nearly every man in that little band of heroes paid with life or wounds for that act of sentimental daring. Conners succeeded in tearing the colors from the staff but before a retreat could be made John Jobs was shot dead and his body never recovered; Sergeant Issacher Ettinger lost a leg and died afterward at Alexandria; and Sergeant Jonathan W. Maguire, Albert McKim, George W. Jobs, a brother of John, and others whose names cannot now be recalled, were wounded.

At the battle of Williamsburg five Burlington men were killed and eight were wounded in Co. F. Among the wounded was Noah E. Lippincott. Magruder's battery was raking the road with shot and shell. Disdaining the danger James Phillips and Charles P. Farner started down the road to rescue their wounded comrade. A staff officer ordered them back but Phillips and Farner dashed across the road and into the woods. They found Lippincott and brought him out between them safely. The Captain had something to say about it that night in camp, and his most significant words were: "These young devils don't know what danger is."

The career of General E. Burd Grubb, the most chivalrous of Burlington's sons, reads like a romance. He received his baptism of fire under General Phil Kearney, in



one of the battles of the Peninsula. The New Jersey troops were in a perilous position between the raking fire of the rebel batteries and that of the main body of the Union forces. General Taylor sent young Lieutenant Grubb, who was one of his aides, to General Slocum's headquarters for orders. The road he was compelled to take was in direct range of the rebel batteries, but Grubb dashed away into the storm of shot and shell and reached his destination safely. Failing to find General Slocum he returned by the same dangerous route. But orders must be had and Grubb was required to repeat that perilous ride. With death staring him in the face at every bound of his horse he went back, and this time succeeded in getting orders.

We find Grubb at General Taylor's side when that officer received his death wound at the second battle of Bull Run, saving his chief from falling into the enemy's hands; again at Chancellorsville, always at the head of his regiment, his horse shot under him, and then on foot still animating his men and leading them on, himself the farthest in the front and the last to leave the field; again at Fredericksburg, his horse once more shot from beneath him, rallying his men when the left of the regiment was turned by the terrible fire directed upon it, leading them into the thickest of the combat; again during that series of sanguinary actions around Fredericksburg, in that magnificent charge upon the Alabama troops ensconced within and intrenched behind Salem Church—an engagement that is the glory of the Twenty-third Regiment—when for twenty-five minutes, amid dust and smoke and shots and cheers and groans, the "Yahoos" charged repeatedly through the smoke of their own rifles upon the strongly entrenched enemy, twice reaching the very front of the church which vomited fire and death from every door and window, Grubb ever in the van, even to the point of placing his hands upon the lintels of

the windows, seeming to bear a charmed life, always cool, always calm, nerving his men to daring by never asking them to face any danger he was unwilling to share.

What a price the Twenty-third paid for that desperate charge. Lieutenant Sid McCarter, of Co. D, fell dead, shot through the heart while with his mouth to Colonel Grubb's ear he was shouting the news that the left was turned by the enemy; the colors presented to the Twenty-third by the Sunday School children of Burlington County shot down twice, and Charley Sibley, of Co. A, shot dead while taking them up; the awful after reckoning of casualties, one hundred and eight officers and men killed, wounded and missing, a greater loss than was sustained by any other regiment in the brigade excepting the Fifteenth. Burlington has been hallowed as the last resting place of nearly four hundred of such heroes.

A generation later Cuba, at our doors, was sorely oppressed by Spain. Sympathy for the ill-treated islanders and diplomatic efforts to adjust the differences between them and their ruthless rulers invited only insolence from the Dons. In the Spring of 1898 the battleship *Maine*, lying in the harbor of Havana, was blown up, by treacherous hands, it was then believed. Urged by the sentiment of the country President McKinley declared war on Spain and we had another conflict on our hands.

The President's call to arms, and the stirring slogan, "Remember the Maine!" found an immediate response in Burlington. On April 27th, 1898, Co. A, of the Sixth Regiment, National Guard of New Jersey, stationed in Burlington, mustered eighty-five men and headed by Captain T. D. Landon entrained for the training camp at Sea Girt, on May 2nd. While at Sea Girt Captain Landon was promoted major. The selection of another captain for Co. A had been practically decided upon by the Military Board,

but the company clamored for Lieutenant J. Frank Clime, who was then acting adjutant of the Sixth. The Board confirmed the company's choice of a commander. The unit was recruited to one hundred and five men, and assigned as Co. K to the Third Regiment.

With Captain Clime in command Co. K left Sea Girt on May 23d for a tour of duty at Sandy Hook. On July 12th they were transferred to Fort Wadsworth for garrison duty; from there to Pompton Lake, on September 25th to guard stores; and, finally, on November 11th, joined the concentration camp at Athens, Georgia. Here they remained irked by the failure of the military authorities to send them to the fighting line, until February 11, 1899, when they were mustered out and returned to Burlington. In addition to Captain Clime the company was officered by First Lieutenant Frank Stowell, Second Lieutenant Alvah Thorn, First Sergeant C. Earl Hopkins. One of the duty sergeants was Edward B. Stone, whose career in the World War has added brilliancy to Burlington's war record.

When that little misunderstanding with Spain was settled it was thought war would not trouble America again. In fact it was believed that the world was yearning for lasting peace; that wars were somewhat out of fashion. Then in 1914, when the world was least expecting it the Beast of Berlin raised his ugly head, rattled his sabre, mobilized his armed millions and threatened the liberties of mankind. The world called to us for succor.

America responded in 1917 and the young men of Burlington, nearly five hundred of them, from every industrial and commercial institution, from every profession and every walk of life, from every nationality within its borders, gave themselves to the defense of world Democracy. When the war beast was eventually throttled, in 1918, they came back to us—some of them came back leaving behind them in for-

eign graves these martyrs to the cause of world freedom: Benjamin Bozarth, Alexander P. Campbell, Franklin B. Clinton, Clarence J. Devlin, Eldridge K. Gaskill, William Glackin, Frederick Grau, Malcolm B. Gunn, Clarence G. Hudson, Dr. James MacFarland, William F. O'Hara, Kenneth E. Price, Herbert S. Ray, John P. Scully, Orien W. Smith, Antonio Favarozi, Edward Watts, William H. Watts, Arthur B. Whitcombe, Walter E. Warren.

These men have entered of their own right into the halls where America holds in admiration those of her sons who have striven mightily for her, and those who have died for her that her ideals might not suffer tarnish.

The outstanding story of Burlington's part in the World War has to do with the record of Company M, Third New Jersey Volunteers, which was recruited by Edward B. Stone, the Burlington soldier who had served in the Spanish-American War. He was appealed to by the Adjutant General of New Jersey to raise a company and once more put himself under military control for the sake of his country. Between eight o'clock in the morning of April 24, 1917, and six o'clock in the evening of the following day, Stone and his recruiting party covered Burlington, Beverly, Riverside, Florence, Roebling and the townships of Burlington County and enlisted one hundred and forty-two men who volunteered their services for an ideal.

It was not until July 25, 1917, that they entered the Federal service in answer to the call of President Wilson. Stone, who was made captain of Co. M, 3d N. J. Infantry, ably assisted by Lieutenants William H. Absalom, of Florence, N. J., and Francis J. Conroy, of Burlington, took this company of volunteers to Sea Girt, N. J., for initiation into the greatest army the United States has ever organized. A month at Sea Girt, N. J., and ten months in Alabama of the hardest grind that any troops serving in the World War



were subjected to had to be undergone before they were fit for foreign service.

They received the recognition they deserved for this tour of arduous training when ordered as part of the Twenty-ninth Division to proceed to Newport News to sail for France, and arrived at Brest June 27, 1918. Co. M had become the nucleus for Co. H, which Captain Stone commanded upon their arrival in France, and continued to command until he was assigned to the command of the Second Battalion of the 114th United States Infantry. This battalion was made up of all the units of the old Third New Jersey Infantry of South Jersey, from the cities of Burlington, Mount Holly, Camden, Woodbury, Salem, Bridgeton, Ocean City and Asbury Park. Captain Stone continued in command of the battalion as a captain until October 26, 1918, when he received his commission as a major in the United States Army.

The regiment was soon removed to the Defense Sector, Haute Alsace. On July 25, 1918, they came under fire for the first time and saw their dead, just one year from the day Co. M left Burlington for the training camp. This was at Danmarie and Bellesdorf. They remained in active service in Haute Alsace until September 23rd when the regiment was moved to Cote de Roche, north of Verdun. Here they found real warfare; here Burlington paid her price for the World War with dead and wounded sons. They were sacrificed only as they were willing to be sacrificed. Again and again they were called upon on October 16th, on October 23d and until October 30th. For twenty-one days they faced the flower of the German Army. They met every emergency and performed every task set before them. Overcoming the shock troops of the German Army, veterans of four years' constant fighting, these Burlington boys threw

back their foe and occupied the ridge that had been assigned to them as their objective.

The battalion got into the actual fighting on October 12th in the attack on Bois d'Ormont, north of Verdun and east of the Meuse River. The heights of Bois d'Ormont dominated the entire adjacent country and was the keystone of the whole Meuse Argonne. To extend their attack the Allies must capture this position. The Germans knew this and had fortified Bois d'Ormont until it was one of their very strongest positions. Although subjected to a heavy artillery fire the works were so well constructed that they were but slightly damaged. The German machine gunners would go into their concrete dug-outs until the fire lifted, then come out, man their guns and direct a terrific fire on the advancing allied troops.

In the face of this resistance the Second Battalion reached the enemy's trenches east of Bois d'Ormont before noon, reorganized them and held off several counter attacks. Their position was greatly exposed and under direct observation from the enemy. Continual rain and cold added discomfort to danger. German planes, unopposed, were flying low and directing a continuous machine gun fire upon the men in the trenches. The free use of poison gas by the enemy, following the attack, increased the casualties.

During this operation the Second Battalion captured sixty prisoners of the Fifteenth and Thirty-second Prussian Divisions, one "88" Austrian field piece, many machine guns and other material. The losses of the battalion were especially severe. Six officers and one hundred and twelve men were killed, twelve officers and eight hundred men wounded. The limit to which the units were pushed is illustrated by Burlington's own Company H, which went into line with six officers and two hundred and thirty-six men

and came out with one officer and only a remnant of forty-two men.

It was during this memorable action that Captain Stone was promoted Major, on the field of battle by the Division Commander, General Charles G. Morton, for meritorious services. The Second Battalion received citations from the Commander-in-Chief, General Pershing; the French Commander, General Claudel; General Morton and General Upton of the Twenty-ninth Division. That no medals of honor, distinguished service medals, or *croix-de-guerre*, were awarded to any of the men from Burlington is accounted for by those familiar with the situation in but one way. None of the original officers of Co. H were in direct command of it in the operations of October 12th-16th, 23d and 30th, and because of the appalling number of casualties there were not many eye witnesses to individual deeds of heroism, conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity. Major Stone, when questioned, replied: "I was an eye witness of the whole action, and I could not honestly recommend any particular individual for this particular honor. Every mother's son did his best. Angels could do no more. The medals of honor these men wear are the wounds they carry from shrapnel, bullets, bayonet thrusts and gas."

## Burlington Celebrities

**T**REASURED memories of Burlington's honorable past are the life stories of the men whose services to the community, to the State, and to the nation, have added lustre to local annals and enriched the pages of national history.

Few cities can turn back to their early days and call up an array of men to match these celebrities of Burlington whose personal worth, mental stature, and devotion to duty, gave to their public performances so much of value. The influence of these examples of citizenship has extended far beyond the generation in which they lived and labored and will continue, a cherished possession, for generations to come.

SAMUEL JENINGS, the first acting Governor of West Jersey, must be given precedence of mention as the most forceful character among the early settlers. He was a man of rare mental endowment and did more than any of his contemporaries in organizing the civil government of the province.

Jenings was a recommended minister of the Society of Friends before coming to Burlington in 1680, and meetings of the Friends of Pennsylvania and West New Jersey were held in his residence at High and Pearl Streets for several years.

Soon after his arrival he was appointed Deputy Governor by Edward Byllinge, the Proprietary Governor of the province. He served in this capacity until 1683 when, at the suggestion of William Penn, he allowed himself to be elected Governor by the Assembly. This estranged him from his superior, Governor Byllinge, and the Assembly sent him to England to confer with the Crown. The matter



was referred at once to the distinguished Quaker, George Fox, and thirteen other prominent Friends, who sustained Byllinge. Whereupon Byllinge deposed Jenings.

This caused much dissatisfaction and discussion throughout the colony and led to bitterness of feeling which found expression in warm friendship for the displaced Governor. The Assembly continued to honor Jenings with the governorship until 1692. While acting as Governor by the Assembly's recognition he was instrumental in framing the first constitution of the province of West Jersey.

Jenings became involved in the celebrated Keith-Budd dispute in Philadelphia, at the time of the seizure of William Bradford's press. Sued and acquitted before the London Yearly Meeting he returned to Burlington where his charity, his goodly deeds and eminent public services are among the fairest memories of the formative period of the province.

The government of the province for a quarter of a century was vested in the Proprietors. Their powers had long been questioned, and the Proprietors joined with those of East Jersey in 1702 and made an absolute and unconditional surrender. Jenings was appointed a member of the Provincial Council and in 1707 became speaker of the Assembly. Lord Cornbury had been appointed the first royal Governor of New Jersey by his cousin, Queen Anne. His tyrannical acts were indignantly resented. Samuel Jenings' fearless opposition to Cornbury's arbitrary misrule was the climax of his courageous career in public life.

When the people of the Colonies of New York and New Jersey determined to appeal to Queen Anne for the removal of the Governor, Jenings wrote the address which was forwarded to the Crown. Cornbury was amazed by Jenings' free and contemptuous criticism. It is recorded that he declared Jenings to be the most impudent man he had ever

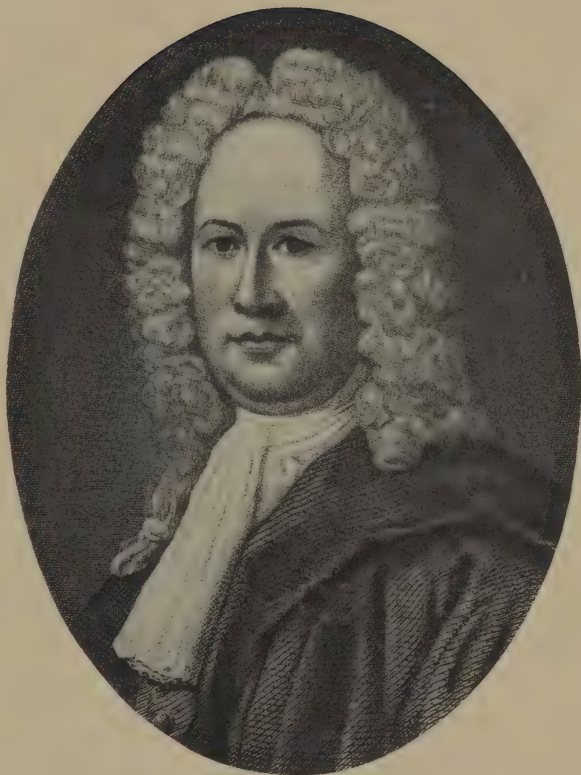
known. The address influenced the recall of Lord Cornbury in 1708, the year of Jenings' death.

Proud, the historian, wrote of him, "Jenings was worthy of memory and endowed with both spiritual and temporal wisdom; was suppressor of vice and encourager of virtue."

DR. DANIEL COXE, of London, the "Great Proprietor" of West Jersey, Governor of the province from 1687 to 1690, lived in Burlington where he built a dwelling house on the river bank and established the first pottery in the state. At the end of his term as Governor he sold the greater part of his vast possessions in West Jersey, East Jersey, New England and Pennsylvania, together with his pottery in Burlington, to the West Jersey Society of London. The remaining portions of his estate passed to his son.

COL. DANIEL COXE, one of the outstanding figures in the colony, came to Burlington in 1701 to look after his father's interests in America. He was appointed commander of the Queen's forces in New Jersey by Lord Cornbury. He also served as a member of the Governor's Council and as a member of the House of Assembly. In 1730 he was made Grand Master of Masons for the middle colonies, the first person in America to be thus honored. He was an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court from 1734 to the time of his death. Col. Coxe was one of the vestrymen named in the first charter given to St. Marys Church by Queen Anne, and was one of the most esteemed members and benefactors of the Parish. When he died in 1739, he was buried in front of the chancel in the old church.

Upon retiring from politics Col. Coxe devoted himself to literature. His vision as a statesman was made manifest when, fifty years before the Revolution, and thirty years before Benjamin Franklin and his associates thought of it, he outlined, in the preface to his "Description of the Caro-



COLONEL DANIEL COXÉ

Commander of the Queen's forces in New Jersey; member of the Governor's Council; Associate Justice of the Supreme Court; First Grand Master of Masons in America; Vestryman and benefactor of St. Marys Church from 1703 to 1739.





linas," a plan for a union of the colonies so much like that adopted in 1784 that it seems like the pronouncement of a prophet.

WILLIAM FRANKLIN, the last of the Royal Governors of New Jersey, resided in Burlington and occupied during a considerable part of his term, a handsome colonial dwelling situated on the river bank, where the home of C. Ross Grubb now stands. Franklin was born about 1730. He was a natural son of Benjamin Franklin, who reared and educated the boy as if he had been born in wedlock. At an early age William Franklin became clerk of the House of Assembly, of Pennsylvania. In 1756, while in London with his father, young Franklin came under the notice of people of position and power, among them Lord Bute through whose influence he was appointed Governor of New Jersey.

Governor Franklin was from first to last a stubborn Tory. He was also an active one, using his influence as Governor to promote the interests of the Crown. He labored to prevent the Legislature sanctioning the Declaration of Independence and the subsequent proceedings of Congress. But popular sentiment against England was too strong for him. He was arrested, deposed from office and sent for safe keeping to Connecticut. There he was held prisoner until 1778, in the house of Captain Grant. He was then exchanged and went to England where royalty took excellent care of him. He died there in 1813 at the age of eighty-two.

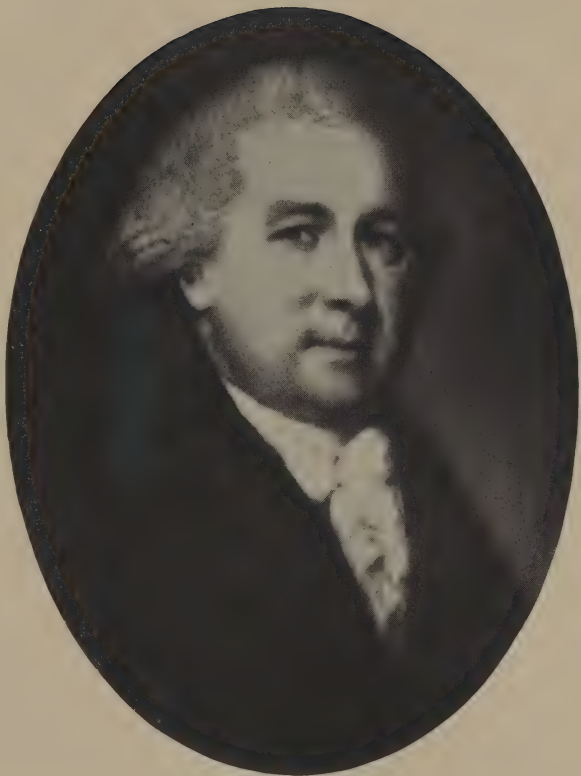
Governor Franklin's career was in marked contrast to that of his famous father, with whom he quarreled bitterly; and to that of his own son, the brilliant William Temple Franklin, who followed in the footsteps of his grandfather, espoused the cause of the colonies, and quarreled with his father, the royal Governor. For years all intercourse was suspended between Governor Franklin and his father, Ben-

jamin Franklin. In 1784 he wrote to his father who said in reply: "Nothing has ever hurt me with such keen sensations, as to find myself deserted in my old age by my only son; and not only deserted, but to find him taking up arms against me in a cause wherein my good fame, fortune and life were all at stake." In his will, also, Benjamin Franklin alludes to the conduct of his son, saying: "The part he acted against me in the late war, which is of public notoriety, will account for my leaving him no more of an estate which he endeavored to deprive me of."

JOSEPH BLOOMFIELD, a captain in the Revolutionary War, a Brigadier General in the War of 1812, and Governor of New Jersey from 1801 to 1812, settled in Burlington upon his marriage to Miss Mary McIlvaine, daughter of Dr. William McIlvaine, an early medical practitioner in the town. In 1783 Mr. Bloomfield was appointed registrar of the Court of Admiralty established in New Jersey. He became the second Mayor of Burlington under the act of incorporation of 1784, and served from 1795 until 1800.

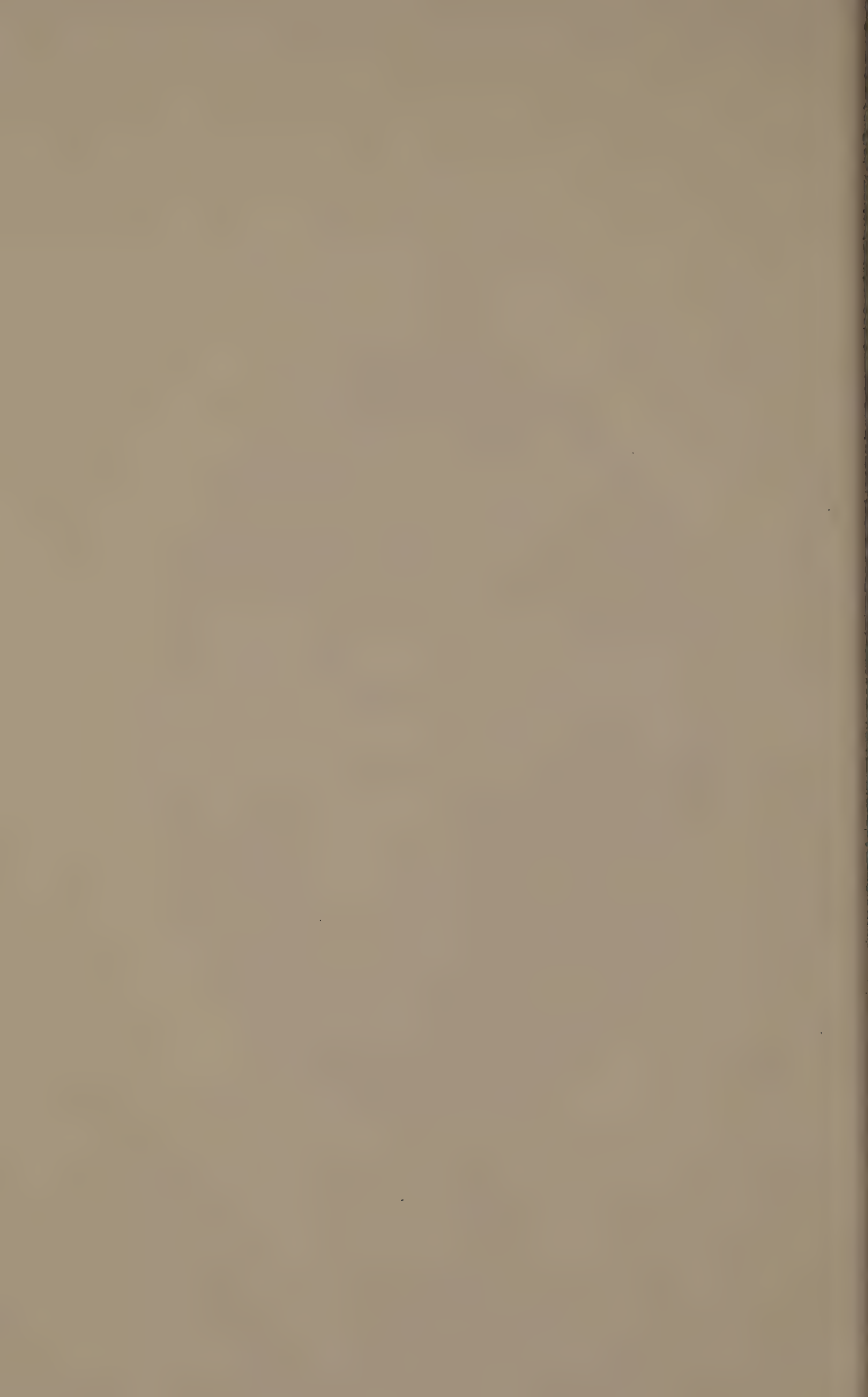
During the War of 1812 General Bloomfield was with his brigade on the border of Canada. He was withdrawn and assigned to the command of a military district with headquarters in Philadelphia. General Bloomfield was president of the first Society for the Abolition of Slavery, organized in Burlington in 1783. He was a Presidential Elector several times, and served as a member of Congress from 1817 to 1821. His death occurred October 3, 1825, in the seventieth year of his age.

SAMUEL SMITH, author of a *History of New Jersey*, which is the most valuable reference book extant covering events of the first century of the history of the province, was born in Burlington, December 13, 1720. He was the son of Richard Smith, who came to Burlington in 1694, engaged in shipbuilding and the West India trade, and erected



GENERAL JOSEPH BLOOMFIELD

Governor of New Jersey from 1801 to 1812; second Mayor  
of Burlington under the charter of 1784.





the Smith homestead, now No. 320 High Street, the year his son Samuel was born.

As a young man Samuel engaged in his father's business as a West India merchant, and for a time resided in Philadelphia. Upon his return to Burlington he occupied the High Street house. "Hickory Grove," a fine estate, now a portion of the suburb of Farnerville, was his country seat, or plantation. Here he wrote his history.

In addition to his *History of New Jersey*, Samuel Smith was the author of other historical works evidencing careful study and wide research. He also organized the benevolent movement which led to the colonization of the remnant of New Jersey Indians at "Brotherton" settlement. In 1759 he drew up the constitution of the New Jersey Society for Helping the Indians and donated generously to its support.

In 1765 his famous *History of New Jersey* was printed in Burlington. The press of the King's Printer, James Parker, was moved here from Woodbridge that the work might be done under the supervision of the author. Samuel Smith was a member of the King's Council and its Secretary for many years. He was at one time the Treasurer of the province. He died in 1776. After his death "Hickory Grove" was occupied by his son Samuel J. Smith, the poet, whose graceful verses won wide appreciation in that day.

ELIAS BOUDINOT, who by virtue of his office as President of the Continental Congress became the first President of the United States upon the signing of the treaty of peace with Great Britain, retired to Burlington, in 1808, to spend his declining years. When he died in 1821, he was easily Burlington's most distinguished citizen.

President Boudinot was born in Philadelphia, of Huguenot parentage, in 1740, and studied law under Richard Stockton, whose eldest sister he married. He was commissioned Commissary General of Prisoners by the Conti-

mental Congress in 1777, and later in the same year was elected to that body, becoming its President in 1782, in which capacity he signed the treaty of peace with Great Britain.

Prior to that time there was no "United States of America." There was a Congress representing the Revolutionists, and its official papers were entitled as from "Congress Assembled," its President as "of the Congress." With the signing of the treaty the colonies assumed the responsibility of a new and independent nation, the "United States of America," and Elias Boudinot became its first President. He issued proclamations in the name of the United States, signed by him as President, was addressed as "the President," was referred to in the public prints as "Our President," and "His Excellency, the President."

The *Philadelphia Packet*, of July 5, 1783, describing a reception given by President Boudinot in honor of the anniversary of Independence Day, said: "Yesterday being the anniversary of Independency, His Excellency, the President, and the Honorable Supreme Court received at His Excellency's house the Compliments of the Magistracy, the Officers of the Army, a very large number of the Officers of the Militia, and other Citizens. In the afternoon the President gave an elegant entertainment to the honorable Council, all of the Field Officers in the City and neighborhood, and several Officers of the Army."

Elias Boudinot served as chief magistrate of the nation until 1785, when the seat of government was removed to New York City, and John Hancock became President. Owing to ill health Hancock resigned on May 29, 1786, and on June 6 Nathaniel Gorman, of Massachusetts, was chosen President.

In 1787, when the new Constitution was adopted, the manner of electing the President was changed and provision

was made for a Vice President. Inquiry as to the official title of the new Congress brought the answer, "First Congress under the new Constitution. In 1789, Elias Boudinot, writing of his appointment as one of a committee to receive President Washington, refers to him as the "First President under the New Constitution." The election of Washington to his second term as President was announced in the public prints as follows: "Philadelphia, January 20, 1793. At the second election for President and Vice President, under the Constitution, Washington received 132 votes, full vote of the college."

In the "Letters of John Adams to his Wife," Adams wrote, "Upon the second election for President and Vice President, under the Constitution, I received the vote for Vice President." Nowhere, and at no time during the life of Washington was he referred to as the "First President," except the early mention when his cumbersome title was "First President under the Constitution." All evidence points to the unmistakable fact that the first President of the United States was Elias Boudinot, and that Washington, as the first President under the Constitution, was the fourth person to serve as Chief Magistrate of the nation.

In 1796 Washington appointed Boudinot Director of the Mint to succeed the celebrated scientist, David Rittenhouse, who had died. Boudinot held that post for ten years when he resigned and retired to Burlington to spend the remainder of his life in private pursuits. He took up the study of Biblical literature, a field by no means new to him since he had, a quarter of a century before, published a rebuttal to Thomas Paine's "Age of Reason," which he termed the "Age of Infidelity." He organized the American Bible Society, in 1816, and was its first president.

Through his connection with the Foreign Missionary Society he became interested in the American Indians and

he virtually adopted a boy of the Cherokee tribe who had been brought to the Mission School. This youth had a romantic history: he became an influential chief of his tribe, spreading the doctrine of Christianity, but came to a tragic end in 1839, when he was murdered by an unregenerate Indian. Elias Boudinot's researches into the life, character and history of the American aborigines, and his conclusions therefrom, are to be found in a work published in 1816 under the title *Star of the West*. He was deeply interested in education. While a trustee of Princeton College he founded, in 1805, its chair of Natural History. The name of Boudinot is preserved in Burlington for all time by the Royal Arch Chapter of Masons and the public school on West Union Street being named for him.

WILLIAM BRADFORD, patriot, jurist, Attorney General of Pennsylvania, and of the United States, was born in Philadelphia, September 14, 1755, and died in that city August 23, 1795. He has been allotted a place among Burlington celebrities by reason of his marriage to Susan, the only daughter and child of Elias Boudinot, who upon her retirement to Burlington with her venerable father in 1808, thirteen years after the death of her distinguished husband, had his remains brought to Burlington and interred in St. Marys churchyard.

William Bradford was the son of Colonel William Bradford, one of the most active spirits of Colonial and Revolutionary Philadelphia. After his graduation from Princeton in 1772 young Bradford read law with Edward Shippen. His law books were thrown aside upon the outbreak of the Revolution and he entered the army as a major of brigade under General Roberdeau. Later he became captain of a company of regular troops under Colonel Hampton, and was finally appointed Muster-Master-Gen-



eral, with the rank of lieutenant colonel. This position he held for two years and then resumed the study of law.

In 1780 he was appointed Attorney General of Pennsylvania and under the Constitution of 1790 became a justice of the State Supreme Court. On January 8, 1794, he was named by Washington to succeed Edmund Randolph as Attorney General of the United States, an office which he held until his death. His *Inquiry How Far Punishment of Death is Necessary in Pennsylvania*, written at the request of Governor Mifflin, brought about a reform of the penal laws in many states.

His widow, Susan Bradford, continued to reside in Burlington after the death of her father, in 1821, until her own death at the advanced age of four score and ten. Alexander Hamilton was a friend of the Boudinot family, and became a colleague of Bradford in the cabinet. The friendship between the widows of these two distinguished men continued to the end of their lives. Susan Bradford was a remarkable woman in many respects. An occurrence of her childhood, characteristic of her spirit while it illustrates her patriotism, has been recorded by Bishop Doane.

When but a girl of nine years she was visiting Governor William Franklin in Burlington. It was soon after the seizure of the tea in Boston harbor in protest against the British tax. A cup of tea was offered to Susan. She declined it politely. The invitation was pressed. She took the cup, touched it to her lips without tasting the tea, crossed the room to an open window, and emptied the cup. On one occasion a party of British troops entered the Boudinot home and helped themselves. Young Susan remonstrated strongly with the officer in command, and then told him that her aunt, who was in the house, asked for protection. The officer replied, teasingly, "Not by your advice, I am sure."

Susan promptly retorted, "That it never was, I can tell you."

JAMES FENIMORE COOPER, the first American novelist to create American literature out of American materials and to gain attention abroad, was born in Burlington in 1789, the eleventh of twelve children, most of whom died in infancy. He was christened James Cooper, but later, by act of Legislature, his name was changed to James Fenimore Cooper to include the maiden name of his mother, who was a member of the Burlington County family of Fenimores. His father, Judge William Cooper was a native of Pennsylvania. Both parents were Quakers. Judge Cooper was interested in extensive tracts of land among the spurs of the Alleghenies which cover the midland counties of New York. He went there in 1785 and had the land surveyed. The following year a settlement was begun at Otsego, and the Cooper home was established there. Three years later the birth of James Fenimore Cooper was imminent.

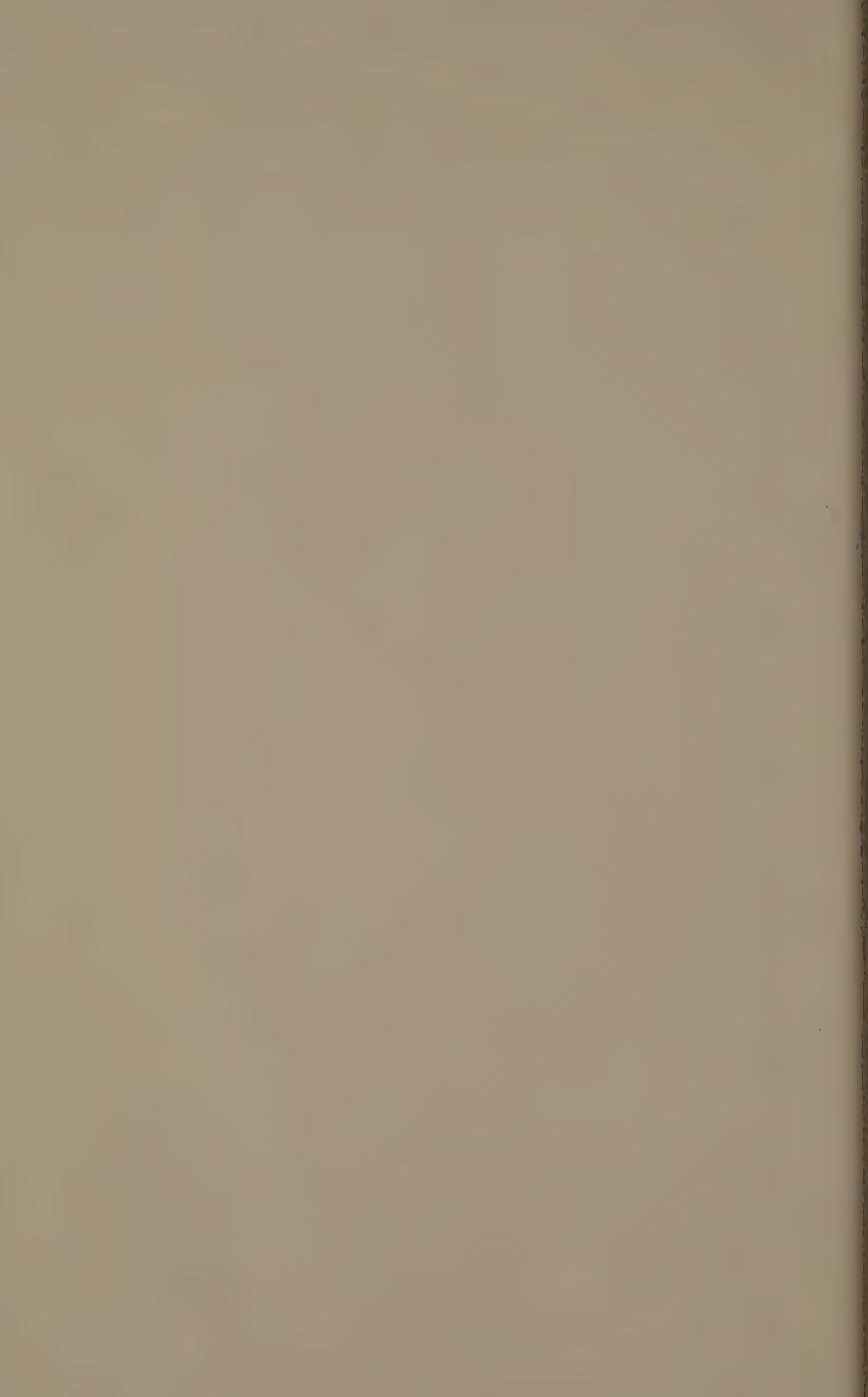
That this important event should happen in Burlington was unplanned and unforeseen by his parents. The settlement at Otsego had not advanced much beyond the wilderness stage. The Coopers had but little confidence in the young local medical practitioner, so they began the long, arduous journey to far away Philadelphia that Mrs. Cooper might have the attention and services of the famous Dr. Benjamin Rush.

When the travelers reached Burlington, Mrs. Cooper's condition would not permit the continuance of the journey, even to nearby Philadelphia. Dr. Rush came to Burlington and James Fenimore Cooper was born in the house 457 High Street, now a cherished historical shrine, the present home of the Burlington County Historical Society. Some



JAMES FENIMORE COOPER

Born in Burlington in 1789; early American novelist.





months later, when the child was old enough to endure the journey, the family returned to their home in Otsego.

Some one has said, "The calendar sets one date for our birth, but memory chooses quite another." Thus it happened that life really began for young Cooper in the wilderness, and his earliest impressions were of that region which he afterward made the scene of his unmatched tales of pioneering days.

At thirteen young Cooper entered Yale College. At the end of three years he was dismissed for inattention to study and disobedience to rules. His father decided that the discipline of seafaring was the proper corrective. The boy's first experience at sea was aboard the *Sterling*, manned with a mixed crew of Americans, Danes, Scotch, Spaniards, Prussians and English, and having the reputation of being "one of the wettest ships ever floated, when headed up against the sea." They were forty days reaching London. They were threatened with capture by a Portuguese pirate on a trip to Gibraltar, and narrowly escaped collision with a man of war.

Young Cooper was commissioned a midshipman in the United States Navy on January 1, 1808. During his three years' service as a naval officer he was with the expedition to Lake Ontario which built the sixteen-gun brig *Oneida* for use in the second war with Great Britain; then on the gunboats on Lake Champlain; and later, as an officer on the *Wasp*.

In 1811 he resigned from the navy, married Miss Susan Augusta de Lancey, and settled in the little village of Fenimore, near Cooperstown, New York. He became Secretary of the County Agricultural Society, Vestryman of Christ Church, Secretary of the Otsego County Bible Society, and introduced merino sheep into that section of the country. He began the erection of a stone house, intending to occupy

it after a visit of a few months to his mother's family, the Fenimores, in Burlington County. He remained here seventeen years, instead of the few months he had planned, and some of the characters in his novels were drawn from eccentric persons in and about Burlington. Before his return to New York the stone house was burned and never occupied. Then a summer house was built at Mamaroneck, Long Island, and Governor Clinton made him Colonel on his staff.

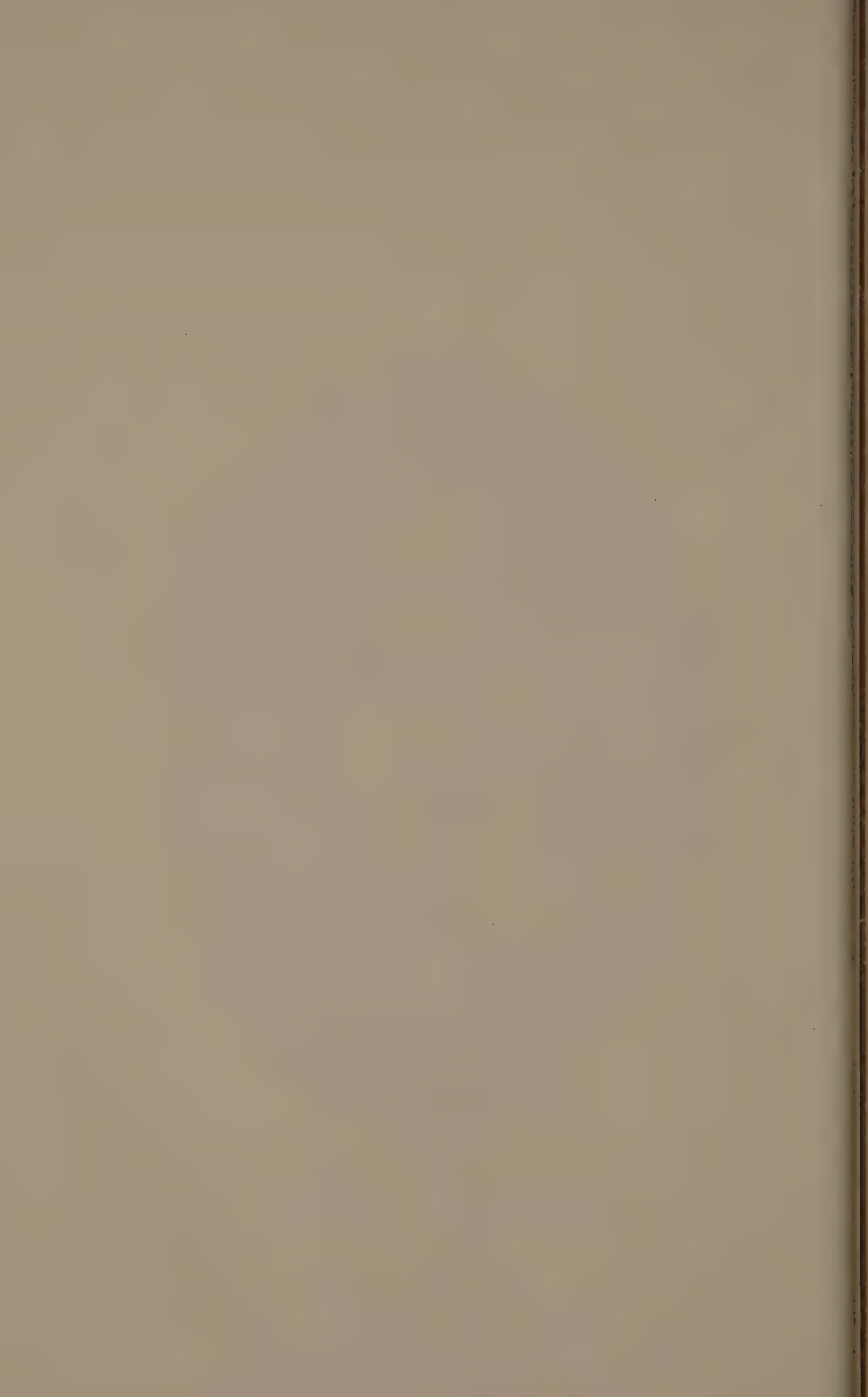
Cooper's career as a novelist had its beginning from the following incident. While reading an English novel by Mrs. Opie he threw it down with the remark, "I could write you a better book than that myself." His wife laughed incredulously. Cooper persisted and almost immediately wrote the first pages of "Precaution," a tale with the action laid in England. The book was well received. An anecdote which Governor Jay told him about a Revolutionary spy supplied the hint for his next novel, and the success of "The Spy" is now a part of the literary history of America. "The Pioneers" followed and Cooper began to take a high place among contemporary novelists. The wilderness life of his boyhood, spent among the Indians and early settlers and the experiences of his career as a sailor, provided the background, with characters drawn from real life, for the long series of unmatched novels which, like the *Pilot*, *Red Rover*, *Water Witch*, and the *Leather Stocking Tales*, are familiar to the novel reading public.

In addition to his novels Cooper wrote a history of the United States Navy. He also served as Consul for the United States at Lyons. He died at Cooperstown, New York, in 1851. Although his birth at Burlington was but a passing incident in a life which was spent elsewhere, a tender memory of the man is enshrined in the Burlington building and the footsteps of pilgrims will ever turn to the



CAPTAIN JAMES LAWRENCE

Born in Burlington Oct. 1, 1781; the greatest Jerseyman  
identified with the War of 1812.





place because it was here that James Fenimore Cooper was ushered into life.

A discussion arose at one time as to the house in which Cooper was born. John Gummere wrote to him to have the controversy settled. In his reply Cooper stated that he was born in a house on the east side of High Street next but one to Federal Street, a house having five windows in the front. This is thought to have been the only letter ever received by a Burlington man from Cooper.

CAPTAIN JAMES LAWRENCE was quite a boy when Cooper was born. It is a happy coincidence that the birth-place of this sea fighter, of deathless memory, stands side by side with that of the sailor author, whose chronicles of sea fights and sea roving are famous. The house 459 High Street, in which he was born, was built by his father, Judge John Lawrence. It was occupied by the Lawrence family for many years, and is linked historically with stirring events of Revolutionary days in Burlington.

The founder of the Lawrence family was Robert Laurens, of Lancastershire, England, who followed Richard Cœur de Leon in the crusade to recover Palestine and the Holy Sepulchre from Paynim hands. At the siege of St. Jean d'Acre, in 1191, Laurens distinguished himself by being the first to plant the banner of the cross on the battlements of the Holy City. For this he was knighted and was awarded a coat of arms which is still preserved and on record in the Surrogate's Office in New York, appended to the will of William Lawrence, 1711.

Three Lawrence brothers emigrated to America and William settled in New Jersey. His wife was Elizabeth Smith, of Long Island. She owned the tract of land on which the flourishing city of Elizabeth stands, and from her the town was named. Her second husband was Sir Philip Carteret, Proprietary Governor of New Jersey. John Law-

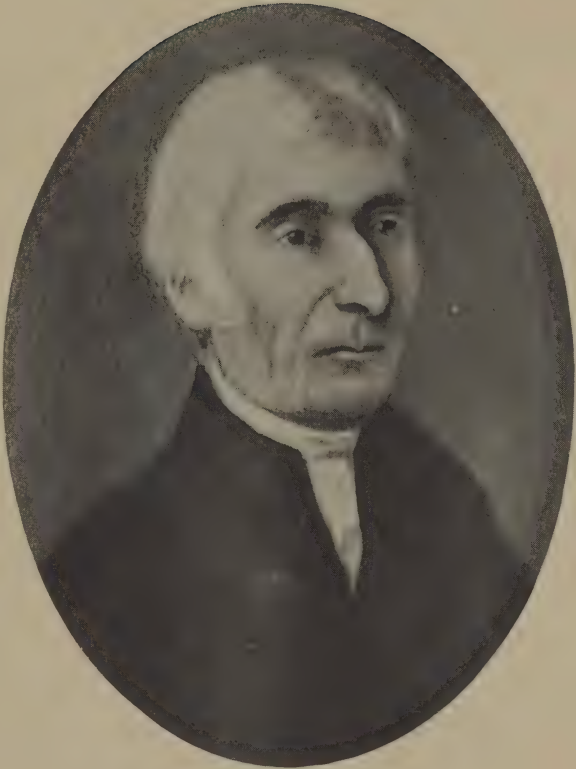
rence, who built the Burlington house, was a prominent lawyer in this city. When the colonies broke with the mother country, Judge Lawrence espoused the cause of the Crown. His Toryism was so offensive that at the close of the Revolutionary War he was compelled to flee to Canada, and died in exile.

James Lawrence, his son, the fruit of a second marriage and the greatest of all the Jerseymen identified with the War of 1812, was born in Burlington on October 1, 1781. While a schoolboy in the Woodbury Academy he showed a predilection for the navy. He entered the law office of his brother, but soon tired of his law books and became a sailor. Before he was seventeen he secured a midshipman's warrant. During the war with Tripoli he became a lieutenant and was placed in command of the *Enterprise*. He commanded the *Hornet* when the war with England began, and early in 1813 met and sank the *Peacock* off Demarara.

Lawrence was assigned to the ill-fated *Chesapeake*. While lying in Boston Harbor, unprepared for battle, on the night of May 30, the *Chesapeake* was challenged by the British frigate *Shannon* and went out to sea to meet the enemy. That memorable engagement has been thus described.

"The two vessels manœuvered in the bay in a silence that was awful. Circling nearer and nearer, both ships finally gave broadside for broadside. The result was disaster and death. The decks of both vessels were red with blood and the air filled with the cries of the dying. The *Chesapeake* and *Shannon* came closer and were then fouled. The American frigate was rendered helpless. At the same time Lawrence, mortally wounded, was carried below. With no thought of himself, thinking only of victory, he appealed to his men, "Don't give up the ship!"

These were not all of Lawrence's words as his men car-



STEPHEN GRELLET

"The Apostle of Burlington"; born in Limoges, France, in 1773;  
died in Burlington in 1855.





ried him below. Although the battle was going against him, and there was no chance of victory, he cried to his men, "Keep the guns going! Fight till she strikes! Don't give up the ship!" He continued repeating these last words, "Don't give up the ship," which have become the watchword of the American Navy, during the four days of delirium preceding his death. Lawrence was taken to Halifax, where he died June 5, 1813, and was buried with the honors of war. Some years later his body was moved to Boston, and after that to New York where it rests in the graveyard of Trinity Church. Upon the stone marking his tomb is engraved: "His bravery in action was only equalled by his modesty in triumph, and his magnanimity to the vanquished. In private life he was a gentleman of the most pronounced and endearing qualities and so acknowledged was his public worth that the whole nation mourned his loss, and the enemy contended with his countrymen who most should honor his remains. The hero, whose remains are here deposited, with his dying breath expressed his devotion to his country. Neither the fury of battle, the anguish of the mortal wound, nor the horrors of approaching death could subdue his gallant spirit."

STEPHEN GRELLET, the "Apostle of Burlington," left a name to be honored among men. Born in Limoges, France, November 2, 1773, he was the son of a rich aristocrat, Gabriel Grellet, who in addition to the importance of his office as Comptroller of the Treasury enjoyed prestige as an intimate of Louis XVI.

Stephen was trained for a military career and at the age of sixteen was enrolled in the King's Guards. The French Revolution brought about the confiscation of the Grellet estates, the imprisonment of his father, and Stephen's own arrest and condemnation to death. Almost on the eve of the hour fixed for his execution he managed to escape. He

made his way to Amsterdam, from there to Demarara, where he spent two years among the squalor of that slave colony, and finally gained passage to New York, where he arrived a refugee without resources, and speaking an alien tongue.

Primarily a Roman Catholic, Grellet had put that faith aside to become an agnostic. In New York he first learned of the life and works of William Penn. While he was at Newtown, Long Island, he came into contact with the writings of the founder of Pennsylvania. In his memoirs Grellet says it was due to the effect made upon him by William Penn's *No Cross, No Crown* that he became converted to the doctrine of the Friends. He read it over and over again, became more and more imbued with the spirit of Quakerism and decided to go to the center of the faith in Philadelphia. There he formed friendships with the well-known families of Emlen, Drinker, Parrish and Scattergood, became a member of the North Meeting on Sixth Street, and entered upon his ministry in the Society of Friends.

Grellet now began preparing himself for the missionary work which was to be the great achievement of his life, supporting himself meanwhile by giving lessons in French. His first missionary effort was a tour of the seashore settlements on the New Jersey coast, from Barnegat to Cape May, preaching the doctrine of the Friends and distributing their literature. While engaged in this work he learned of the yellow fever epidemic in Philadelphia. He hastened back and associated himself with Stephen Girard in visiting the stricken, attending the dying, and burying the dead, as a duty of his self-imposed ministry.

One night he found himself seized with the fever. He went down stairs, he says, unlatched the door so that some one could enter in case he might not be able to arise from his bed, and was found prostrate the next morning. So

desperate was his condition that his coffin was ordered, and his name included in the report to the health officer as one of the dead. Grellet ascribed his recovery to the promise he had made while ill that he would devote his entire life to missionary work, should it be spared to him.

Then his great life work began. First to the South, then to the North, even up to Canada, he spread the faith of the Friends. Finally he decided to go to Europe to extend the reach of his labors. Napoleon's campaigns were converting all Europe into armed camps, but Grellet, in the plain garb of a Philadelphia Quaker with the broad-brimmed hat that William Penn had worn, followed on the heels of the army preaching peace and good will. More than once he was tracked by the secret police as a spy. Napoleon's agents were several times on the point of arresting him, but these and many other incidents of his journey were passed safely.

In the course of his life Grellet made four trips abroad and there was not a country in Europe that he did not visit, excepting Portugal. Wherever he went he was accorded general respect as a man of high and holy purpose. On one of his visits to Rome he received marked consideration from Cardinal Consalvi, the astute diplomat of the Vatican, who arranged an audience with Pope Pius VII. Grellet says the Holy Father bestowed a benediction upon him despite the difference in their religious views. When Grellet visited Haiti, President Petion turned out the entire army of six thousand natives in honor of the visit of the Quaker missionary, whom the blacks greeted as "Saint Stephen."

One of the outstanding incidents of his life was Grellet's meeting with the King of Prussia, and with Alexander I, of Russia, in London in 1814. The Czar not only accorded him a lengthy audience but attended one of his meetings. From that meeting developed a friendship which later led to

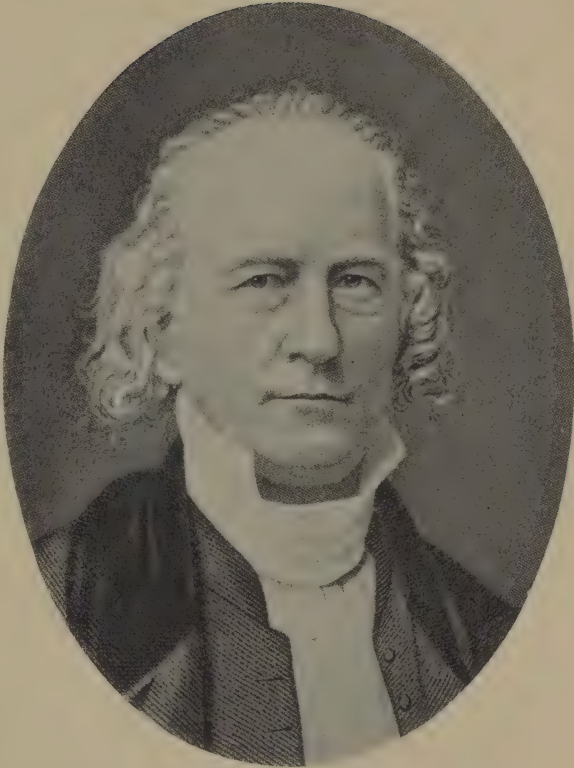
Grellet's visit to St. Petersburg, with William Allen, and the preparation of a small book containing excerpts from the Bible, which the Czar authorized as an official text in the Russian schools. In 1821 this book was adopted by the Philadelphia School Controllers for use in the public schools of that city.

After Grellet gave up his work abroad he kept on with his travels through the United States until he broke down in 1847 while attending Yearly Meeting in Philadelphia. He then retired to Burlington, where he spent the remaining years of his life, honored and respected as one of the grand old men of the community. He died in 1855 and rests in the Friends' burial ground. In the records of the Friends Meeting, and in the archives of the Society of Friends in Philadelphia, there are preserved many memorials of Stephen Grellet's career.

His wife, who survived him, was Rebecca, eldest daughter of Isaac Collins, once the King's printer of New Jersey, whose name is also linked with the story of Burlington.

GEORGE WASHINGTON DOANE, for twenty-six years Bishop of New Jersey and Rector of St. Marys Church, of Burlington, was in some respects one of the most remarkable of the men who rank among the historical personages of America. Had he continued in his first chosen profession, the law, he would have been one of the most learned and eloquent members of the bar, and might have gained the Supreme Court bench; had statecraft attracted him, the Presidency might have been within his reach; had not his life been so filled by his activities in advancing the cause of the Church, as defender of the faith, the music that was in his soul, the fertility of his imagination, his facility in metrical composition, and his love of literary expression, as evinced in his volume of *Songs by the Way*, published in 1824, would have given America another distinguished poet.





RIGHT REVEREND GEORGE WASHINGTON DOANE

Bishop of New Jersey and Rector of St. Marys Church from  
1833 to 1859.



This great prelate was a native of New Jersey, born at Trenton May 27, 1799. While yet a boy his parents moved to New York City, where he became a pupil in the private academy of Dr. Barry, one of the foremost teachers and scholars of his time. About 1808 the family removed to Geneva, N. Y., where his teacher was Dr. Axtell, a Presbyterian clergyman, who required the boys to learn and recite the shorter catechism of that society. Young Doane denied knowledge of any such catechism, and would recognize no other than the one his mother had taught him. He was whipped and disgraced for his obstinate stand for principle, but his spirit was not quelled. He repeated the offense. When sent to the seat of disgrace near the door so many boys, who like him knew only the Church Catechism, took their seats beside him that the rule was repealed, and a separate class recited every week in the Catechism of the Church. This incident illustrates not only his perfect loyalty to the church and the unconquerable courage of his devotion, but also the leadership as a boy which manifested itself so strongly in his manhood.

After his graduation from Union College, in his twentieth year, he went to New York City, where his father had moved, and entered the law office of the eminent Richard Harrison. Disliking the law, he abandoned this first plan for a career, when he felt the working of a call within him to embrace the higher calling of the Priesthood. In 1819, the year following the death of his father, he became a candidate for Holy Orders in the Diocese of New Jersey. While pursuing his studies for the ministry, under Bishop Hobart, he supported himself and the family by establishing a classical school for boys. The success and popularity of this school attracted attention and led to a professorship in Trinity College, in 1825, where he gained distinction during the three years he remained there.

It was these experiences that moulded his mind and fixed his purpose for the great work of his life, Christian education in the American Church, not only from the pulpit and the chancel rail, but by promoting the founding of parochial schools throughout the Diocese, and his own noble foundations in Burlington, St. Marys Hall and Burlington College.

During Mr. Doane's ministerial life in New York as Deacon, and as Rector, from 1821 to 1824, he was in Trinity Church, under and with Bishop Hobart. His first sermon was preached for the Rev. Peter Williams, the pastor of St. Philips colored congregation in New York City. In addition to his work in Trinity Church he was, in connection with the Rev. Dr. Upfold, the founder of St. Lukes Chapel in New York.

His love of teaching led him to seek a professorship where he could add intellectual to spiritual work. He left New York for Hartford, Connecticut, in 1824 on invitation from Dr. Brownell, the founder and President of Washington College, with whom he had served in Union College. While in residence at Washington College Mr. Doane was an active and earnest missionary to many points near Hartford, and flourishing parishes bear witness to the effectiveness of his labors.

From Hartford Mr. Doane went in 1828 to the Rectorship of Trinity Church, Boston, where he remained until his elevation to the Episcopate of the Diocese of New Jersey. During the period thus hastily sketched Mr. Doane was employing his splendid talents contributing to literary journals and conducting church papers. In 1820 he established the *Episcopal Watchman* and became its editor, and was associated with Dr. William Croswell in the editorship of the *Banner of the Church*. In 1828 the African Mission School Society was organized for the purpose of educating colored schoolmasters, catechists, and mission-



aries, to be sent to Africa under the General Missionary Society, and Mr. Doane was made a director and one of the executive committee.

Among his many efforts to touch others with the fire of his own zeal in this work was the establishment of a Missionary Lecture in Boston. His greatest work and service to this cause was rendered later in life. He was one of a committee of the Board of Directors of the Missionary Society, in 1835, to consider the organization of the Society. He brought to this project all the earnestness of his nature, and the draft of the plan made by him shows that the American Church owes him a debt of unforgetting gratitude. He preached the sermon at the consecration of Dr. Kemper, the first Missionary Bishop of the Church. Had he himself been called to the most remote corner of the earth as a part of God's vineyard, he would have gone cheerfully, but it was his more important task to awaken and inspire others to that glorious service.

The call to the Episcopacy of New Jersey was most unexpected. It came on the sixth ballot at the convention held in New Brunswick, on October 3, 1832, about one month after the death of his venerable predecessor, Bishop Croes. Bishop Doane did not remove to New Jersey until the Spring of 1833. He continued to officiate in Trinity Church, Boston, until Easter. His first purpose was to make Newark his residence, and he was strongly urged to do so. He tells in his second address to the Convention the circumstances which led him, after a temporary residence in Burlington, to make the decision which meant so much to St. Marys parish: "The death of Rev. Dr. Wharton, and the peculiar circumstances of the Parish of St. Marys, Burlington, presented a conflicting duty. After mature deliberation, with inquiry of those whose judgments in the matter were best instructed, it seemed incumbent on me to assume the charge

of the interesting parish thus vacated; which I did—for the first six months—and afterward as its Rector.”

It was on October 1, 1833, that Bishop Doane accepted the permanent rectorship of St. Marys. He continued in the active discharge of its duties until his death, on April 27, 1859, in the twenty-seventh year of his episcopate. Of his faithfulness to his charge the records of St. Marys and of the Diocese of New Jersey bear witness. The old church was twice enlarged. The new St. Marys, than which there is no nobler building in American church architecture, lifts its shapely spire in memory of the loftiness of his aims and the beauty of his ideals. The Delaware became a classic and sacred stream when he founded on its banks the twin seats of learning, St. Marys Hall and Burlington College. The number of communicants in the Parish grew from thirty-five to three hundred; the baptisms numbered nine hundred and ninety-one; the confirmations eleven hundred and nineteen; and the contributions, not including the cost of the church building, were thirty-six thousand dollars.

In the Diocese his constant labors were even more notable. When he came into the Diocese “its parishes were feeble; its clergy few; its contributions small; its influence slight.” He extended his visitations to every county in the State. Mark the change made during the twenty-six years of Bishop Doane’s episcopate. Its clergy, from eighteen, grew to ninety-nine; fifty-four parishes were added to its thirty; one hundred and thirty-six clergymen were ordained and eighty instituted; fifty eight churches were consecrated; the confirmations reached, in all, seven thousand four hundred and thirty; the communicants from six hundred and fifty-seven became five thousand; the Sunday School teachers and scholars multiplied tenfold.

How wide were his interests and his labors. And yet he was ever enthusiastically identified with the affairs of

the town and its people. The printed volumes of his addresses and sermons in themselves would represent the life work of a less able man. When the Historical Society of New Jersey was formed he was among its earliest members. His eloquent voice was uplifted in behalf of the church and other worthy causes in both hemispheres. He was equally identified with the affairs of the town, aside from the parish. He was enthusiastic in promoting the best interests of the people of Burlington, and his relations with them were intimate. He was more than the clergyman to them; he was their faithful friend, always ready to lend a helping hand and cheering voice.

In a severe winter Bishop Doane would be found organizing a soup society. When the Apprentice's Library was founded he assisted greatly. When the Burlington Lyceum (now the City Hall) was erected he was president of the syndicate of gentlemen who financed it, made the address at its opening, and lectured in the Hall frequently. In his addresses to the people of Burlington, on secular occasions, he was very apt to voice his pride in the town by making use of the quotation—"I am a citizen of no mean city."

Both of Bishop Doane's sons rose to distinction as church dignitaries. His older son, George Hobart Doane, saddened his father's heart when he went over to the Church of Rome, and became Vicar General of the Diocese of Newark, N. J., and was elevated to a place in the Vatican at Rome.

William Crosswell Doane, the younger son, who followed his father as rector of St. Marys for a brief period, has sustained the name of Doane for episcopal eminence as the nationally known Bishop of Albany.

This chapter cannot be closed without including Henry Armitt Brown's comprehensive summary of men who figured prominently in the past of Burlington, and whose

names should be honorably borne in the Burlington of the future:

"Count this array of native or adopted citizens; Ellis and Stockton and Dutton and Sterling and Woolman and the mysterious Tyler; Franklin, the Tory Governor, and Temple, his accomplished son; Samuel Smith, the historian, and Samuel J. Smith, the poet; William Coxe, the pomologist and John Griscom, the friend of learning; Shippen and Cole in medicine and Dean and Gummere in education; Bloomfield and McIlvaine and Wall in politics, and at the bar, Griffith, Wallace, Reed, two generations of the McIlvaines, and four of the name of Kinsey, and those great masters of the law, Charles Chauncey and Horace Binney. Read the long list of teachers of religion. I name the dead alone—Grellet and Cox and Hoskins and Mott and Dilwyn among Friends; and in the Church, Talbot, the witty Odell, the venerable Wharton, the saint-like McIlvaine, and that priestly prelate, the most inspiring figure of my boyhood." Here Mr. Brown referred to Bishop Doane. "I see the brilliant Wall, the rough and ready Engle, the venerable Grellet, William R. Allen, Mayor for a quarter of a century; the little form, too small for such a heart, of William J. Allinson; the white head of Thomas Milnor; the well-adorned face of Courtlandt Van Rensselaer."

Daniel Wills, one of the Commissioners sent over by the English Proprietors to purchase and settle lands, was the first practitioner in medicine to come to Burlington. John Gosling, another of the earliest physicians, was a signer of the "Concessions and Agreements." John Rodman, born in Burlington in 1679, practiced here until his death and was a member of His Majesty's Council for the province of New Jersey. James Kinsey, "well versed in the law and of unspotted integrity," led the opposition to Governor William Franklin. William Griffith was an ac-



complished lawyer, who stood at the head of the bar, and as a member of the Assembly, in 1820, took an active part in the revision of the state laws made in that year.

Joseph McIlvaine was United States Senator in 1820; Joshua Maddox Wallace, Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, Trustee of Princeton College, and associated with Elias Boudinot in the formation of the American Bible Society, was one of the group of citizens who established the old Burlington Academy. Bowes Reed, first Mayor of Burlington, under the act of incorporation of 1784, was a brother of General Joseph Reed, Washington's aid-de-camp. Frederick Engle was a distinguished sailor, who died a Rear Admiral in the U. S. Navy. James Dean was a famous professor of mathematics in Vermont University. John Gummere and Samuel J. Gummere are honored names in the history of education. John Coxe, John Hoskins, Richard Mott and George Dilwyn were eminent preachers in the Society of Friends. David Allinson was an early publisher. William J. Allinson, the apothecary and friend of Whittier, was himself an accomplished litterateur and antiquarian, and a benefactor of the Burlington Library. Charles Ellis and Thomas Dutton were merchants. Samuel W. Stockton was the father of improved dentistry. James Hunter Sterling's donation gave Burlington its handsome library building.

The mysterious Tyler, to whom Henry Armitt Brown refers, was an accomplished Englishman, evidently of rank, who settled in Burlington early in the nineteenth century, and about whose life there was some mystery which has never been cleared up. It was supposed that he was a relative of Warren Hastings. Courtlandt Van Rensselaer was the first pastor of the Presbyterian Church and Charles Pettit McIlvaine, D.D., became a distinguished prelate as Bishop of Ohio.

James Sterling's store at the southwest corner of High and Union Streets was known from one end of New Jersey to the other. It was said that one could ask for nothing he could not furnish. One curious customer asked for duck yokes, and got them. Another wag made a demand for a second-hand pulpit, and it was forthcoming. Commodore David Deacon distinguished himself in the early days of the American Navy. He served under Preble in the Mediterranean, and was with the gallant Trappe in the battle before Tripoli. He served in the War of 1812, and received wounds from which he never recovered. Garrett D. Wall held the rare distinction of having declined the Governorship of New Jersey when elected to that high office by a joint meeting of the Legislature in 1829. He served a term in the United States Senate, as also did his brilliant and eloquent son, James W. Wall, who was the first Mayor of Burlington under the charter of 1851.

These names may seem shadowy to us to-day, but they should be recalled with each succeeding anniversary of Burlington's beginnings as the names of those who have best upheld the honored traditions of the town.

Coming down to later days we find, equally worthy of mention, Robert Thomas, founder of the Burlington Savings Institution; William Bishop, one of the founders and the first Vice-President of the Savings Institution; Thomas Milnor, Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, a prime mover in the establishment of the public school system in Burlington, and President of the Burlington Library Company from 1857 until his death in 1868; Franklin Woolman, Surveyor General of West Jersey for many years, succeeding his father, Burr Woolman. Without disparagement of present-day physicians in Burlington, for the city is now, as it has always been, served by medical men of ability, the three men, among all who have practiced here,

who have gained fame and recognition far beyond the borders of Burlington, are Dr. Joseph Parrish, the internationally known alienist and authority on the study and cure of inebriety, whose opinions and advice were sought by specialists in England, France, Germany and Italy; Dr. Franklin Gauntt, one of the earliest proponents of the present generally accepted germ theory of disease, whose able presentation of the subject won the applause of the most learned men of his day; Dr. John Howard Pugh, the scholar, physician, statesman and financier.

General E. Burd Grubb brought renown to Burlington during the Civil War. Entering the war as a youthful lieutenant he won promotion after promotion and at the close of hostilities was made brevet Brigadier General of Volunteers. His brilliant career brightened the pages of New Jersey's military history, won the adoration of the men he commanded, and fixed his place in the affections of the people of Burlington as one of her most chivalrous sons. Two men, distinguished for service to their country, came to Burlington to spend their last years. Captain Miner K. Knowlton served with the French Army as aid to Marshal Beaugaud in Algeria in 1845, and with the United States Army in the Mexican War. He was instructor at West Point for fourteen years, and became the preceptor of General Grant. Admiral John de Camp, one of the ablest and bravest of the old school of naval officers, won distinction while serving with Farragut's fleet in Mobile Bay. It is related of him that on one occasion when too ill to stand upright he had himself lashed in the rigging and, while directing the movements of his ship from this position, a portion of an ear was shot away by a bursting shell.

Henry Snowden Haines must be assigned a place among Burlington's later day celebrities. As Surveyor General of West Jersey, and Grand Instructor of Masons for the juris-

diction of New Jersey, Mr. Haines was known from one end of the state to the other. He at one time served as County Superintendent of Public Schools, and was the first superintendent of the Water Works. As a civil engineer he became a consulting expert for several communities, including Burlington, and also surveyed and mapped much of the undeveloped territory along the beaches of New Jersey, which now are the sites of famous seaside resorts. Mr. Haines organized the De Molay Chapter for boys, sponsored by Burlington Lodge No. 32, F. & A. M. Himself a descendant of first settlers, Mr. Haines was keenly interested in, and gave much study to, the annals of early days in Burlington. He wrote an exhaustive history of Burlington, illustrated with drawings, many of them made by himself, but unfortunately would never consent to have it published.





## Burlington in Legend

TO chronicle faithfully the legends concerning curious characters and events figuring in the early life of Burlington is a precarious performance. This is particularly true of the tales that have come down to us of the antics of such human oddities as are depicted only in the pages of fantastic fiction. Yet when we browse among the literary remains represented by the personal correspondence of Burlington's earliest days, we find sober references which lend the color of historical accuracy to that which otherwise might be accepted as purely imaginative.

If we are to believe one of these tales Burlington held a second Munchausen, one John Wood, who lived on Pearl Street. When he expired, more than a century ago, it might seem that the art of extravagant narration died with him. Wood was a wonder to the boys of Burlington, who would listen with bated breath to his marvelous recitals. He created an atmosphere of credence by claiming to have been a witness to the many strange things he related. His most amazing tales were recitals of the doings of certain dogs, which would eat fire until it blazed out of their mouths. Another of his favorite inventions was the description of a daring ride he took through a field of rye, the grain taller than his head as he sat on his horse, and how he parted the rye with his whip as he made his way through it at full speed. Wood's death was a distinct loss to the boys of Burlington who sat at the feet of that remarkable raconteur.

A character, less admirable and less picturesque than John Wood, was a stout, tall peddler and crier of vendues, named Jonathan Grimage. At times he served as constable and gave to that office a greater semblance of terror for

the refractory youth of Burlington by reason of their belief in his supernatural powers. Grimage confirmed this estimate of his character when he became the third husband of a scare-crow sort of beggar woman named Lydia Brady. Her forbidding aspect and evil reputation made her feared by superstitious townspeople, who were convinced that she consorted with witches in their revels, and that she consulted evil spirits, who bestowed upon her some of their power to harm mortals.

Lydia was deaf and lame. A mythical origin of her crippled condition is found in an old song, purported to have been sung by witches at their revels under the old witches' tree on the river bank. One stanza of the song is a confession by one of the eldritch crew, who makes this boast:

*"I saw Dame Brady sitting alone,  
And I dried up the marrow within her hip bone;  
When she arose she could scarcely limp.  
Why did I do it? She called me 'foul imp'."*

Lydia was the butt of the boys of the town. They baited her daily, always at a safe distance in fear of her uncanny powers, and the basket of stones she carried with her to throw at her tormenters.

The most inventive imagination could not create a being more grotesque, and more terrifying to children, than "Old Joany," a diminutive, black visaged, repulsive female who lived, and flourished after a strange fashion, in Burlington one hundred and seventy-five years ago. Joany always carried with her a bag, presumably designed as a receptacle for "cold wittles." She excited the amused curiosity of adults, and the trembling fears of children, by her eery explanation that the bag contained her "sabble rats," a nondescript quadruped born of her own imaginings, and not described by naturalists.

Every child in Burlington knew Old Joany and dreaded her bag. Parents would threaten to put misbehaving children in it. Joany was rather proud of this popular estimate of her place as the town bugaboo. She fostered public opinion in that respect by making frequent inquiry in a terribly discordant voice:

"Neighbor, have you got any naughty children in here to-day? Because if you has I'm got my bag ready."

This would send timid children scurrying out of sight under bedsteads and in closets. When bolder children curiously gathered about her, Joany would frighten her juvenile audience with stories of Irish fairies which she described as "little bits of things no bigger than your thumb, and if they get hold of you they'll soon pinch you black and blue." Then she would tell them awe-inspiring tales of ghosts and witches until her listeners were afraid to look around, and on their way home they would cross the street two or three times to avoid stumps, or bushes, or the shadow of a building.

What eventually became of Old Joany is unknown. There is no record of her death, nor of where she went when she ceased to figure in the life of old Burlington.

Among the many unpublished chapters of earliest times in Burlington there lurks the legend of a nearly forgotten romance which may be new to the present generation. It is the story of the courtship and marriage of Robert Zane and his Indian bride, Alice Alday.

Robert Zane was a pioneer of the earliest English settlement in Camden County, at Newton. He had come with Fenwick's group of English Quakers, who settled at Salem in 1675, joined the Friends Meeting established there, and engaged himself in the business of weaving wool. Four years later he married Alice Alday, of Burlington, in the Friends Meeting. That Alice Alday was an Indian maiden

has been disputed, but there seems to be no available evidence in support of that contention.

It is a legend among Zane's descendants, one of whom, Samuel Ellis, is living in Burlington, that Zane became enamored of the bronzed beauty while journeying among the natives. We can imagine some hunting expedition finding him at nightfall near the hospitable wigwam of a friendly Indian. He is invited to rest and eat. Sitting by the evening fire the old chief becomes inquisitive about his guest. Zane tells the story of his life. The dark skinned damsel listens. He observes her interest in his tale. It seems to draw from her a sign of sympathy. It is a story of the wrongs which drove the people of his faith across the sea seeking an asylum here, and it hints at other wrongs that might follow. The maiden's interest in the man heightens, his story beguiles her tears, and wins her love.

An English name for the Indian girl was required when the preliminaries for the marriage were arranged. The name, Alice Alday, was suggested, and accepted by her father. The discipline of the Society of Friends also required that her religious belief should be an acceptance of the testimonies of the Meeting. The maiden conformed to this, the old chief, her father, expressed his satisfaction, and nothing remained to be done but the marriage. The ceremony took place beneath the tent in which the Friends Meeting in Burlington was then held.

Some historians have expressed doubt that Alice Alday was an Indian. They class this story with the disputed tale of Pocahontas and Captain John Smith. They point out that if she were an aborigine she must have been received in membership by the Friends Meeting before she could be married by its ceremony and under its authority. There is no record of Alice Alday having been so received. Against that argument her descendants contend that as the records



of the Burlington Monthly Meeting do not run back of the year 1678, Alice Alday's connection with the Society may have antedated that year. Then again, a careful search among the names of the early white settlers in South Jersey fails to reveal the name of Alday. So they hold to her Indian origin.

Robert Zane died in 1694. His will, executed the same year, is described as a ragged, damp stained document in the file of the Secretary of State of New Jersey, where it has reposed for more than two centuries, disregarded and probably forgotten. This will is said to contain much information about his real estate and his family. His first wife, who had died, was in all probability the mother of the children named in the will. His second wife, Elizabeth, was the mother of a child born shortly after his death. The other children were Nathaniel, Robert, Elnathan, Simeon, Mary, Esther and Sarah.

Several of this Zane family emigrated to the West, where they fought against the Indians, and broke the wilderness for the planting of this great Nation. One of them built the first house erected in Wheeling, W. Va. Another, Jonathan Zane, was considered the most expert hunter of his day. Another, Isaac Zane, was captured by the Indians when nine years old, became thoroughly Indian in his habits and appearance and married the sister of a Wyandotte chief. By her he acquired a large landed estate and eight children. He remained true to the whites and by timely information saved them many disastrous visitations.

Col. Ebenezer Zane, the most famous descendant of the Zane family of that period, was one of the most prominent of the hunter-pioneers who labored in the winning of the West. He settled Zanesville, Ohio, which is named for the family. His daughter, Betty Zane, is the heroine of the

popular novel of that name, written by Zane Grey, himself a direct descendant of Col. Ebenezer Zane, through his mother.

Volumes might be filled with amusing stories, culled from the local traditions of the older towns and villages in every county in New Jersey, concerning the belief in witchcraft that was prevalent in the province in its early days. Typical examples of this were to be found in Burlington. When we think of the Burlington of that period we have a mental picture of a community of grave, sober-minded Friends distinguished as well for their intelligence as for their simple piety, and whose philosophy of life precluded such vagaries of the human mind as belief in witchcraft.

There must have been some chaff among the wheat for in the early annals of the town we find traditions of a witches' tree, in fact of two trees of haunted memory, and of a well authenticated tale of witch baiting. The identity of the witches' tree is in dispute. One chronicler insists that it was a large willow tree under whose spreading branches the witches gathered. Another supposed authority avers that it was the noble buttonwood on the river bank hallowed by its historical association with the mooring of the ship *Shield*, in 1678. The witches' tree was believed to be the favorite resort of the creatures who danced around it in devilish merriment on many a wild night. When intruded upon by mortals they rode away at lightning speed, seated on broomsticks, and uttering eldritch screeches.

In the *Pennsylvania Gazette*, of October 15-22, 1730, is found an amusing account of a witch baiting which took place at some point between Burlington and Mount Holly on the previous Saturday. The story was printed as a communication from a Burlington correspondent of the *Gazette*, but the racy style of the narrative suggests the probability that it may have been written by Benjamin Franklin, who

was the sole proprietor of the *Pennsylvania Gazette* at the time. Franklin tells the story in the following manner:

"It seems the Accused had been charged with making their Neighbors' Sheep dance in an uncommon Manner, and with causing Hogs to speak, and sing Psalms &c., to the great Terror and Amazement of the King's good and peaceable Subjects in the Province, and the Accusers being very positive that if the Accused were weighed in Scales against a Bible, the Bible would prove too heavy for them; or that if they were bound and put into the River, they would swim; the said Accused, desirous to make their innocence appear, voluntarily offered to undergo the said Trials, if 2 of the most violent of their Accusers would be tried with them.

"Accordingly the Time and Place was agreed on, and advertised about the Country; the Accusers were 1 Man and 1 Woman; and the Accused the same. The Parties being met, and the People got together, a grand Consultation was held, before they proceeded to Trial; in which it was agreed to use the Scales first; and a Committee of Men to search the Men and a Committee of Women to search the Women, to see if they had any Thing of Weight about them, particularly Pins.

"After the searching was over, a huge great Bible belonging to the Justice of the Peace was provided, and a Lane through the Populace was made from the Justice's House to the Scales, which were fixed on a Gallows erected for that purpose opposite to the House, that the Justices Wife and the rest of the Ladies might see the Trial, without coming amongst the Mob; and after the manner of Moorfields, a large ring was also made.

"Then came out of the House a great tall Man carrying the Holy Writ before the supposed Wizard, &c., (as solemnly as the Sword bearer of London before the Lord Mayor) the Wizard was first put in the Scale, and over him was read

a Chapter out of the Book of Moses, and then the Bible was put in the other Scale (which being kept down before) was immediately let go; but to great Surprise of the Spectators, Flesh and Bones came down plump, and outweighed that great good Book by abundance. After the same manner the others were served, and their Lumps of Mortality severally were too heavy for Moses and all the Prophets and Apostles.

"This being over, the Accusers and the rest of the Mob, not satisfied with this Experiment, would have the Trial by Water; accordingly a most solemn procession was made to the Mill-pond; where both Accused and Accusers being stripped, (saving only to the Women their Shifts) were bound Hand and Foot, and severally placed in the Water, lengthwise from the side of a Barge or Flat, having no security only a Rope about the Middle of each, which was held by someone in the Flat.

"The Accused Man being thin and spare with some Difficulty began to sink at last; but the rest, every one of them swam very light upon the Water. A Sailor in the Flat jumped out upon the Back of the Man Accused, thinking to drive him down to the Bottom; but the Person bound, without any Help came up some time before the other.

"The Woman Accuser being told that she did not sink would be duck'd a Second Time; when she Swam again as light as before. Upon which she declared That she believed the Accused had bewitched her to make her so light, and that she would be duck'd again a Hundred Times, but she would duck the Devil out of her.

"The Accused Man being surprised at his own Swimming, was not so Confident of his Innocence as before, but said If I am a Witch, it is more than I know. The more thinking Part of the Spectators were of opinion, that any Person so bound and placed in the Water (unless they were



mere Skin and Bones) would swim until their Breath was gone, and their Lungs filled with Water. But it being the general Belief of the Populace that the Women's Shifts and the Garters with which they were bound helped to support them; it is said they are to be tried again, the next warm Weather, naked."

That pirates used to roam the Delaware and that treasure has been found along its banks cannot be gainsaid. In the *New Jersey Archives* we find numerous references to the raids of the sea robbers and the measures that were taken to curb their depredations. These facts have given rise to legends of buried treasures concealed early in the eighteenth century, and of hair-raising experiences in efforts to recover them.

Burlington has its tradition of buried treasure. Superstition held famous for generations a large black walnut tree, the enormous stump of which could be seen a little more than half a century ago on a lot in the rear of the east side of Wood Street, just north of Union Street, known then as John Broomhead's tanyard, as a place of deposit for looted gold and silver by the pirate Blackbeard.

It was firmly believed by early inhabitants that Blackbeard and his pirate crew landed at the foot of Wood Street one dark, stormy night with a quantity of plunder which they buried in silence under the roots of that walnut tree, and covered with a broad, flat stone.

"Who'll guard this wealth?" Blackbeard cried. With the question came a vivid flash of lightning, revealing the villainous faces of the company. A Spaniard, one of the most reckless of the crew of cut-throats, offered himself as the victim. According to the legend, he was shot through the head with a charmed bullet which left no wound, and was buried in an erect position, his feet upon the stone which covered the buried gold.

This legend becomes associated with the witches' tree in a tale that is told of an attempt made by the pirates to regain the buried treasure. The adventure was attended by a violent manifestation of Nature's elemental forces and the spectacle of haggard witches dancing with linked hands around the Spaniard's place of interment. The pirates fled and never repeated the attempt.

Many superstitious persons also believed the story that an apparition was frequently seen on Wood Street, in the vicinity of the tanyard, of a large black dog that had been buried with the murdered Spaniard. The legend is silent on this point. So much for tradition. If the tale be true the treasure remains where it was buried. That there are credulous souls who still hope to find material proof that the story is not illusory has been evidenced by delvers for the hidden wealth in the Wood Street lot from time to time. The latest attempt, widely heralded in sensational news stories, was made in the Summer of 1926.

When the battered and time worn structure known as the old British Barracks, which stood on the west bank of Assiscunk Creek, was remodeled into a place of worship for St. Pauls R. C. Parish, nearly three quarters of a century ago, a curious bystander picked up a piece of glass broken from one of the windows. Scratched upon it with a diamond was this inscription: "Emma Read, the Belle of Burlington."

Thereby hangs a tale. The unembellished outline of it was told to the writer some years ago by that authentic local historian, the late Henry S. Haines. It is a romance of Revolutionary days, the story of a brave Burlington girl whose devotion to the cause for which her Patriot lover was battling, and whose great daring in assisting his escape from a shameful death as a spy at the hands of the British, are the outstanding features of a colorful tradition of old Bur-

lington. Although, as Mr. Haines modestly maintained, the story may be merely legendary, it should not be suffered to pass into oblivion. Portrayed by the pen of imagination the tale runs in this wise.

The Tory families in the town encouraged the cause of the Crown, and welcomed the British officers from the Barracks as favored guests. The Red Coats made the most of these social opportunities. They found dalliance with the daughters of their Tory hosts, and with other maidens whom they met on such occasions, a delightful diversion from the dull monotony of routine duty in the Barracks. These attentions were encouraged by the daughters of Tory families. They were merely endured by the daughters of Patriot families; but this did not discourage the red-coated dandies who imagined themselves irresistible.

This was particularly true of Major Morton, the commandant at the Barracks. His pursuit of bright-eyed Emma Read, begun as a diversion, developed into serious courtship. Emma had found no pleasure in Morton's light-hearted attentions. Now that he seemed serious she was perplexed. And with reason. There was a young Captain in the American Army to whom she had accorded more interest than she had bestowed on any other man.

She endeavored to make Morton understand that his attentions were distasteful and his visits undesirable. It was a state of affairs which, had he been less masterful and more generous, would have bred respect as well as hopeless love.

But the Major would not be denied. His visits became more frequent, and his wooing more ardent. Emma repeatedly refused the offer of his hand. She scorned his boastful proposal to make her "a soldier's wife."

"I am to be the wife of a soldier—a Patriot soldier," she said, "not one who wears the livery of a tyrant King."

"I have heard of your rebel lover." Morton endeavored in vain to restrain his rising wrath. "I tell you to warn him to keep away from Burlington if he values his safety, and perhaps his life." With this threat the Major flung out of the room and returned to his quarters.

On a raw gusty day in December 1776, the storm that had been gathering broke into fury as night came on. A biting northeast wind whistled shrilly, snow flakes whirled in blinding clouds in every direction, frost fought its way into every crack and crevice. Sentinels on post about the Barracks and in the town trudged wearily through heavy banks of snow, heads bent to the blast as it swept by in tremendous gusts. They looked longingly at the fire-lighted windows of the Barracks and the dwellings of well-to-do citizens.

Within the Read homestead comfort reigned. Enhaloed by the generous glow from blazing hickory logs, Emma sat alone in front of the spacious fire-place. Her knitting lay unregarded in her lap, her attitude a tense alertness. There was that, too, in her face which betrayed both expectation and foreboding—expectation of the promised coming of him to whom her troth was plighted—foreboding that his venturesome visit within the British outposts might end disastrously.

The sentinel in front of the Court House, opposite, could be heard when he halted frequently to beat his chilled hands together. Suddenly came the sharp cry, "Halt!" Emma sprang to her feet, filled with fear. The challenge seemed ominous. For whom was it meant? Approaching footsteps might be the herald of happiness or woe. At that moment Major Morton entered the room. She sank back into her chair. Her sense of relief was alloyed with alarm at the conjunction of circumstances created by his presence and the expected visit of her lover.



Morton paid her the usual compliments and seated himself by her side. With cool assurance he took her hand. Emma arose abruptly. Resentment had routed fear. Without acknowledging his compliments she voiced indignation.

"Major Morton, you have been told that your visits to this house are against my inclination and my will. You—"

"Will you listen to reason?" Morton interrupted. "You have been the object of my most respectful attentions. You choose to regard them as insults. Why do you scorn an honorable love?"

"Why do I scorn it?" she cried. "Love professed by an enemy of my country is hypocritical and insulting. I may be forced to endure your attentions, since you Englishmen have control of the town, but the day is coming when you will be made to leave it."

"Don't talk nonsense. We will leave the town only when we wish to do so. We will continue to admire and seek its daughters—"

"To browbeat and insult them when no protector is by, as I can testify in honest terms. But there is one who some day may meet you—"

"You have referred indirectly to one whom I have just had the pleasure of meeting." The Major's tone was ironical. "What's the name of your precious Patriot lover? Captain—ah, Captain Smith, I believe. Are you interested in his fate?"

Ignoring the cynical inquiry, Emma moved hastily to the window to conceal a storm of emotions whose intensity was scarcely surpassed by the conflict of Nature's forces which met her eyes.

"Ah, you tremble," the Major jeered. "Your Captain Smith thought he could safely sneak through our lines this stormy night to visit you. Well, we've captured him, with-

out uniform, too. He is at this moment a prisoner at the Barracks. For your sake I might have made his escape possible. Your attitude has sealed his fate. Tomorrow he will be sent to New York to be tried as a spy." Emma did not move from the window until the sound of the closing door told her that Morton had gone. Then the soul of a heroine was born.

The Court House clock struck twelve when, closely muffled in her cloak, Emma stole from the house. The storm still raged furiously. Staggering through the drifted snow banks, buffeted by the gale, she slowly made her way up Broad Street. The sentinels were successfully evaded. Cautiously approaching the arched gateway of the Barracks a view of the interior of the guard room was possible. Captain Smith could be seen sitting near a window in contemplative mood, closely guarded by a file of soldiers.

Emma lingered there, hiding from the sentinels, exposed to the pitiless pelting of the storm, puzzling her brain to plan some means for his escape. Then came the changing of the guards. The new sentinels were conducted to their posts. The relieved sentinels came marching into the guard room. They slapped their chilled arms about their bodies, stamped their feet to dislodge the snow, and began noisy recitals of incidents of the trying tour of duty just ended. This diverted attention from the prisoner. It was the opportunity for which Emma had waited. She approached the window and tapped lightly.

Smith had been pondering some plan of escape from the moment of his capture. He was alert to any chance or any signal. Sensing the meaning of the tapping he edged close to the window and saw Emma's fingers pressed against the frosted pane.

A quickly raised sash, a headlong dive through the opened window, a plunge into a deep snow bank, and a fore-

taste of freedom was his. Emma hauled him from his snow burial to his feet and urged him in his flight. Swirling masses of snow blanketed their retreat. The fusillade of shots fired frantically after them was but a random effort. The creek, frozen from bank to bank, was their bridge. They quickly crossed it and found comfortable concealment in the home of a stout Patriot at some distance east of the town.

A few nights after his escape Captain Smith succeeded in joining Washington's forces as they were retreating across New Jersey. He crossed the Delaware with them on Christmas night, and was one of the foremost participants in that memorable rout of the Hessians at Trenton. That he encountered Major Morton in the battle, and slew him in a hand-to-hand fight, was long a legend among the descendants of Captain Smith and Emma Read.

The most popular and perhaps the best known legend of Revolutionary days in Burlington is the intriguing story of the secret chamber, discovered in the Chauncey house on the river bank when it was demolished in 1872, to be replaced by the present dwelling of C. Ross Grubb.

This historical hiding place was in the eastern wing. It was entered from a back sleeping room in the main house, through a door which opened into a closet containing two shelves. On close inspection it was found that these shelves were movable, and that with some little effort they could be drawn out. With the shelves removed the entire back of the closet could be swung out by any one acquainted with the purpose of the construction.

This revealed the entrance to the secret chamber, which was really the cock loft of the wing, or back building. It was well floored with dressed boards on which was found a pile of clean straw, enough for a man to sleep on comfortably. There was also a box nearly filled with clean

sawdust. This was turned out on the floor by those who found it but without the half-anticipated discovery of a skeleton, or even a bag of gold, in fact not even a silver spoon. A bell was hanging to the wall of the adjoining sleeping room, and rung by means of a wire having a pull on the ground floor.

These were all the discoveries made by careful examination with a lantern. But they were sufficient to set conjecture at work to account for the strange manner of constructing a closet of the kind leading into a dark room, through a chamber provided with a bell by which warning could be given from below. It seems unfortunate that public gratification could not have been satisfied, or conjecture excited, by some more gruesome or interesting discovery. Had the sawdust been only stained with blood; had there been nothing more than a few paltry doubloons scattered over the floor, or even a few Spanish dollars of ancient coinage; an old Revolutionary musket, all the better if it were moderately battered, with a rusty bayonet; a bullet-ridden canteen or a solitary cocked hat no matter how much moth-eaten—any of these priceless relics would have invested the story of the secret chamber with a bewildering interest.

The chief mystery concerning the secret chamber is the provoking and unanswered question—why and by whom was it constructed? The house was built before the Revolution, but by whom there is no record. It was occupied by Governor William Franklin, the last royal Governor of New Jersey. There is a possibility that he may have been the builder of the house, as he was appointed Governor in 1763 and received a salary of twelve hundred pounds. But the secret chamber would not have been constructed by Governor Franklin. He had no need for it. His Toryism was outspoken. He defied the Whigs and would have scorned the mere thought of hiding from them.



And yet, when after his arrest by order of the Provincial Congress in June 1776, Margaret Hill Morris took over the house, she seems to have learned of the secret chamber within the short space of six months, for we find her writing in her famous diary (which has been quoted freely in the chapter, *Burlington in the Revolution*, in this volume) of how she concealed the Tory rector Rev. Jonathan Odell in the "auger hole," as she terms the secret chamber. She also leaves an impression that other refugees escaped pursuit within its shelter. But never a hint does she give of how she gained knowledge of the existence of the secret chamber and whether she had knowledge of its creator. It still remains a mystery.

So we must leave it where it is, a subject for conjecture. Some one more patient, or more fortunate than ourselves in finding them, may succeed in gathering up the filaments of a dozen theories concerning it, and weave them into a coherent tissue. The house was taken down a half century ago, but there can be found two relics of it still remaining. Two of the pillars of its fine colonnaded porch are now standing in front of the doorway of the residence of Charles B. Gilbert, 234 Wood Street; and the iron balustrade of the porch is now the iron fence fronting the property of S. S. Davis, No. 235 West Union Street.

Long before the English Quakers from London and Yorkshire sailed up the Delaware in the summer of 1677, Aarent Schuyler had come from Bergen County and acquired lands. He established a log tavern and a rope ferry with a scow for transporting teams and travelers across the river, at the corner of a road, now seldom used and known as the Schuyler Ferry Road, which connects the River Road with the present State Highway.

The log tavern and ferry descended to the Dutch pioneer's grandson, Peter, who was both landlord and captain

of the scow. There has come down to us a legend concerning a certain famous passenger who used the ferry in Peter Schuyler's time. One day in mid-July, 1804, a distinguished looking stranger came riding down the Schuyler Ferry Road, and requested Peter to carry him and his horse across the river to Pennsylvania. The man was of middle age, prepossessing manners, and full of conversation. What name he bore or whence he came was of no moment to Peter, who gave no thought to his passenger save that he must have come from New York.

The stranger, with his horse, got into the scow, and Peter began to rope it across the river. It was a slow journey and much conversation passed between the two men on the way. After many inquiries about local affairs and the ferryman's knowledge of general affairs, the passenger asked if any person had heard of Aaron Burr being in the neighborhood. "No," replied Peter. "If I could catch the d—d rascal I'd drown him!"

The stranger made no reply. Reaching the Pennsylvania shore he mounted his horse and rode off toward Philadelphia. Peter was astounded and chagrined when it was ascertained later that his loquacious passenger was no other than Aaron Burr, then a fugitive from New York, seeking escape to Europe from popular indignation aroused by his killing of Alexander Hamilton.

Burlington was the scene of one episode in a fascinating historical legend of France—the legend of the lost Dauphin, which has been the theme of speculative essays, and the basis of the plots of historical novels, notably those of Sir Gilbert Parker and Mary Hartwell Catherwood.

Louis Charles, the nine-year-old Dauphin of France, and his sister, Maria Theresa, son and daughter of Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette, were imprisoned with their parents when the frenzied French revolutionists drove the

royal family out of the Tuileries. For two years the children remained incarcerated after the ill-fated King and Queen were beheaded. The young Dauphin, who became Louis XVII on the death of his father in 1793, and whose claim to the throne was recognized by England and Russia, was the most tortured victim of the French Revolution.

During the last six months of captivity he was hidden away in an airless dungeon, covered with rags and filth and vermin. Fiery liquors were forced down his throat to drown his youthful memories of royal state. His food was passed to him through a slit in a door. He saw no human face save those of his physician and his brutal jailer. He was knocked down on the slightest pretext, his wrists and ankle joints were swollen with poisonous blood, and he became merely a dull-brained breathing corpse. Then it was announced that the corpse had ceased to breathe, and the successor to a long line of Kings was buried.

That is the story as history has recorded it. There were those who refused to believe the Dauphin was dead. They knew of a royalist plot to bribe the jailer, smuggle the Dauphin out of the Temple prison, and substitute a dying child for him. They believed this plot had succeeded. It was known that the Dauphin's physician had died suddenly, and it was said that he was poisoned as part of the plot, so that a new physician, unacquainted with the Dauphin, might attend the boy who died.

What became of the Dauphin if he was taken from the Temple alive has been the subject of many legends. That which gained greatest credence, and seems to be confirmed by later events, tells of the Dauphin secretly carried to London; hidden for a short time in St. Bartholomew Hospital; then taken to America, where he was placed with a tribe of Indians, and became lost to the world at large for many years. The Dauphin's sister, who became Madame Royal

d'Angouleme by marriage with her cousin, the duke, believed this, and it was said that a certain sum of money was sent out to America by the royalists every year, for his maintenance.

As the years passed on imposters impersonating the lost Dauphin appeared before Monsieur, the brother of Louis XVI, at Mittau, Russia, where he maintained a court at the expense of Russia and Spain, while Napoleon I ruled in Paris. Many clues to the identity of the Dauphin were followed out to end in disappointment.

Then a delegation of French royalists came to America and wandered through the unsettled West, visiting one Indian tribe after another, seeking tidings of him they believed to be the lost heir to the French throne. They broke their journey at Davenport, Iowa, where they were entertained by the Marquis d'Macklot, the maternal grandfather of Miss Lydia Weston, of Burlington. The Marquis was a French emigre who came to America when France was an uncomfortable place for titled families. Before moving west to Davenport he lived in Burlington in the house on Ellis Street known for many years as the Askew property.

The delegation of French royalists continued their quest until they came upon clues which led them to an Indian tribe with whom a young Frenchman was living as the son of a chief. While convinced that their search had ended successfully they desired confirmation of it. The young man they had found could not furnish it. He had lost all memory of his childhood.

There was one man in America qualified to establish the identity of the Dauphin. That man was Stephen Grellet, the "Apostle of Burlington," who was living in the house No. 437 High Street, now occupied by the Public Service Electric and Gas Company. In his youth Grellet had served



in the personal guard of King Louis XVI, and escaped to America when his royal master was driven from the throne and beheaded. Grellet was familiar with the Bourbon features.

What happened when the three Frenchmen and their protege came to Burlington was told by John Collins, who a half century or more ago lived in the house occupied in early days by his forbear, Isaac Collins, the King's printer, at the northeast corner of York and Broad Streets. Mr. Collins was an artist and will be remembered for the sketches he made of Burlington's historic buildings.

Collins, a small boy at the time, was a pupil of Stephen Grellet, and repaired to the Grellet residence on certain days of the week to be tutored in the French language. On the morning that the delegation of French royalists arrived in Burlington with the supposed Dauphin, Collins found that his instructor was not quite ready for him. He was sitting in the parlor patiently waiting for the appearance of Grellet, who was in an upper room, when there came a summons at the front door. This was followed by the ushering in of three men of marked degree, accompanied by a young man clad in commonplace garments, but whose pride of countenance and loftiness of bearing were unmistakable.

In a few moments Grellet came down. The three French royalists at once drew him aside in conference, leaving the young man standing by a front window looking out on High Street. Collins soon sensed that the young man was the subject of the discussion, and with a boy's curious interest he scanned him closely. He saw a tall, well developed figure; a face with large features, eager in expression and browned by years of exposure to sun and wind. The eyes were hazel and bluish about the iris rims, the nose aquiline, the chin full, the head high and round templed. There was a scar across the right brow, and the ears, which

were full at the top, joined the contour of the jaw closely without any indentation at the bottom.

During the conference with the three Frenchmen, Grellet shot frequent keen glances at the young man who seemed occupied with his own thoughts. Suddenly Grellet strode down the length of the room, faced the young man, and studied his face intently. Then with an amazed expression, and a quick upraising of his hands in dramatic gesture, he exclaimed:

"The identical Bourbon features!"

Turning to the three Frenchmen, who were approaching, he inquired:

"Has he the scars?"

"Monsieur Grellet, he has," was the reply.

Grellet and the three Frenchmen gathered about the young man and conversed in low tones. Collins was impressed by the extreme deference paid to the young stranger by his elders, and occasionally he heard the title "Sire," when they addressed him. The observing boy felt that something of moment was taking place, but was unaware that he was the spectator of a scene pulsing with political possibilities affecting the future of France.

Turning towards Collins, as though noting his presence for the first time, Grellet abruptly dismissed him. In the days that followed Grellet remained reticent about the affair, and it was not until years afterward that Collins realized the full significance of the incident. Then he learned that upon presenting himself at the royalist court, at Mit-tan, the young man whom Grellet had identified unmistakably as the lost Dauphin was repudiated by his uncle, and was classed with the imposters who had preceded him with claims to the throne of the monarchy. The young man returned to America disillusioned, made his way back to the

unsettled West, and became a teacher and missionary among the Indians who had fostered him in his boyhood.

An incident, illustrating the indomitable will and purposeful persistence of Bishop Doane in putting aside all obstacles to the accomplishment of his plans, serves admirably as a tradition of the time when he lived and labored in Burlington.

While the Bishop was engaged in his great work of founding St. Marys Hall, in 1837, he had occasion at one time, during the latter part of the week, to visit New York. He was detained there until the close of Saturday. No provision had been made for the supply of his pulpit on the approaching Sunday. He therefore hastened to catch the evening train to return to Burlington.

On the way to the station he met a friend whom he found warmly interested in the proposed educational institution, and willing to listen to any statements concerning it. Interest increased as the conversation continued. Note of the passing time was neglected. The Bishop missed his train and there was no later one scheduled.

A freight train which would pass through Burlington was to leave New York at a later hour that night, and the Bishop thought, as was sometimes the rule, that there would be a passenger car attached. At the railroad station he was informed that a freight train was about to leave but that no passenger car was to accompany it.

The Bishop requested that he be allowed to ride on the engine, or even to sit or stand on one of the platforms. He was told that strict orders had been received forbidding the agent to permit any person to travel as a passenger on a freight train.

"Very well, obey your orders," said the Bishop. "I never encourage disobedience. You say this is a freight

train? Are all your cars full? Do you forward freight by weight?"

"We have room for more than we have aboard," the agent replied. "We weigh whatever is to be forwarded and charge by the pound."

The Bishop went to the scales. "Weigh me," he said. The agent took the proceeding as a joke and weighed him.

"Now make out your bill of lading, put me on board and ship me as freight to Burlington."

The agent stared at the dignified figure of the Bishop; then laughed and moved away.

"I mean it," the Bishop persisted. "I must get to Burlington. There is no other way. Ship me as freight."

With apparent reluctance the agent loaded the Bishop into one of the freight cars and locked the door, as the regulations required. This done, he turned to one of his assistants and said: "That is the most persevering man I have ever met with."

When the train arrived in Burlington, early on Sunday morning, the conductor told the local station agent that he had some of the most remarkable freight for Burlington he had ever heard of having been carried over any road in a train like that.

"What's it like?" the station agent asked.

The conductor grinned. "Live stock."

"Nothing remarkable about that," the station agent said. "You carry live stock often."

"But not like this," the conductor replied. He opened the car door and Bishop Doane stepped out to the astonishment of those who were gathered at the station.

A portion of the freight carried over the Camden and Amboy Railroad on that memorable night then walked to the Episcopal residence to prepare for the service of the day as rector of St. Marys Church.



## Burlington in Commerce and Industry

PERHAPS the earliest manufacturing plant in Burlington was a pottery established by Dr. Daniel Coxe. No history of this venture comes down to us beyond the fugitive record that it was sold in 1691, with "all the tools" and a dwelling, when he disposed of a large part of his possessions in the Province to the West Jersey Society of London.

Mention is also found that a nail factory, the property of an ancestor of the founder of the famous periodical, *Littell's Living Age*, was in operation in Burlington in 1690. A brewery was also doing business in the rear of the double house 108 and 110 High Street. Oakey Hoagland was the proprietor.

Other enterprises followed. Writing of Burlington in 1698, Gabriel Thomas tells of "the large timber yards, cloth workers who make very fine serges, druggets, crepes, camlets (part silk or worsted and part camel's hair), good plushes and several other woollen cloths, besides linen." He also refers to "most sorts of tradesmen" whose wages were "upon the same footing with the Pennsylvanians." He makes particular note that "several fine ships and vessels (besides Governor Coxe's great ship) have been built."

For a century or more after Mahlon Stacy and his associates made their first venture in sea trading with their little fifty-ton ketch, Burlington ranked with Boston and New York as a port of entry. Notwithstanding the grievous restrictions imposed by the mother country, evidence of the prosperity enjoyed by the province is found in the early port records of Burlington, Perth Amboy, Salem and Cape May.

Burlington was one of the busiest of these sea ports. The high seas saw many vessels from Burlington bound to

and returning from Dublin, Liverpool, Lisbon and the British West Indies. The trade with the Indies was heavy and profitable, especially with the islands of Antigua, Barbados and Jamaica. A Boston news letter of September 11, 1711, tells of a Burlington man-of-war sailing from New York to Canada.

It was a natural corollary to this maritime activity that ship building became a chief industry of the town. As early as 1698 an important ship yard was established on the river bank, at the foot of Talbot Street. For nearly half a century this forerunner of the fame of the Delaware as "the Clyde of America" continued to turn out ships that trafficked with all the principal ports of the world.

The site of that old ship yard is known, historically, as Barbarroux wharf. From its ways, in 1744, when George the Second was at war with both France and Spain, the privateer *Marlborough* was launched. The capabilities of that early ship yard may be estimated by the fact that the full complement of the *Marlborough's* crew was one hundred and fifty men.

Richard Smith, Jr., a member of the historical family of "Burlington Smiths," who came to America in 1694 (it is said in his own ship) and located in Burlington, was the master of the yard. One of his vessels, trading with the West Indies, was named the *Burlington*. He built the house No. 320 High Street, and occupied it until his death in 1751. Burlington's shipping industry declined as Philadelphia outgrew her in population and trade.

Burlington, however, continued to be recognized officially as a port of entry and a collector of customs, under supervision of the Department of the Treasury, continued to hold office here for many years after the trade with foreign ports ceased. After a time no appointments of collectors of the port of Burlington were made. That the office ex-

isted officially was recognized in 1912, under the Roosevelt administration, when I. Snowden Haines was appointed to the position, and performed its somewhat perfunctory duties until 1915. He was succeeded by his deputy, Reginald Branch, who in turn was followed by his deputy, Mayor Thomas S. Mooney, who became the last collector of the port when the Burlington office was merged with the Custom House at Trenton.

In 1796 a boat with side wheels was built in Burlington, and plied for a year between Burlington and Philadelphia. In later years Elias Strecker and Daniel Vansciver were actively engaged in boat building. Strecker had his shipyard on the site known for many years as the Bishop's wharf; Vansciver's was near the junction of the Delaware River and the Assiscunk Creek.

A shipyard was established by Abner Durell in 1832 on the river front a few hundred yards west from the mouth of the Assiscunk Creek. In the early thirties that part of Burlington was not very thickly settled. Between York Street and the creek there were but two or three buildings along the river front, and on the opposite side of East Pearl Street a field of corn was growing. While engaged chiefly, in later years, in building smaller craft, yachts and skiffs, Durell's yard at first turned out sloops of sixty tons' burden.

James W. Fenimore and his brother, Joshua, employes in Durell's establishment, set up a yard of their own and engaged in constructing yachts and light row boats. Both the Durell and Fenimore yards gained great reputation for skill in designing and building speedy racing craft. The river was enlivened every Summer with yacht races which attracted entries of the fleetest sailing craft along the Delaware, and it was a rare occasion when the pennant was not won by a Durell or Fenimore boat.

Some time prior to 1711, William Basnett conducted a brewery in a large building on the river front lot just west of High Street, now occupied by the Price and Craft coal-yard. In that year Thomas Stevenson acquired ownership when it was called "the new brew house." The property passed to Peter Baynton in 1743. During his tenure he abandoned the brewing business and the property became the Stage-Boat House where passengers arriving and departing by stage awaited the arrival of the Philadelphia boat, which came no further up the river than Burlington.

In the near neighborhood William Innes also erected a large brewery at the northeast corner of Wood and Pearl Streets. Browsing through the files of the old *New Jersey Gazette*, published in Trenton in 1729, we find the following advertisement of the Burlington brewery:

"William Innes acquaints his customers he now begins brewing, will sell beer at the Philadelphia prices, for cash or produce only. He again requests all those indebted to him to call and pay their respective balances, and those who have casks of his are desired to return them.

"N. B.—Said Innes gives the current prices for barley &c., and has some salt he will exchange for barley or wheat for family use."

That was one hundred and fifty years ago. This brewery was in operation as late as 1812. How much longer no one knows.

Before the Revolutionary War a grist mill was established up along the Assiscunk Creek, in the southeastern part of Burlington Township. It was known in later years as Hopkin's Mill. Earliest authentic record of ownership gives the name of Elias Wright, in 1808. Christopher Rigg purchased the property from the Wright estate in 1863, tore down the old mill, and built a new one a few rods further down the creek. He was succeeded by his sons, Ed-



ward and George Rigg. In 1877 they substituted a thirty horse power engine for the old water power that had been in use. The mill was equipped with three run of stone and was conducted as a merchant mill until a generation ago.

During the closing years of the eighteenth century Nathaniel Coleman, the Quaker silversmith, with cunning craftsmanship, was producing artistic conceptions which graced the most fashionable homes and are now preserved as heirlooms of the period in which they were wrought. Nathaniel Coleman's shop was in the rear of his residence, No. 320 High Street.

About this same time the pursuit of agriculture was greatly aided by the production, in Burlington, of the first iron plow made in America. The early plows in use were massive wooden affairs requiring strong teams and several men to operate one of them. The best plow used in America, prior to 1797, is thus described: "The landslide and standard were of wood, but sometimes plated with sheet iron. The handles were upright and held in place by wooden pins—" In that year, 1797, Charles Newbold, of Burlington, made his great improvement in plows by casting the moldboard, share, landside and point in a solid piece. Thomas Jefferson made special mention of the Newbold plow in his writings.

Beginning with the year eighteen hundred, for more than three score years, the Mitchell family conducted the business of smoking herring in Burlington. Their last smokehouse was erected in 1830. It stood upon ground on Delaware Avenue, west of High Street, that had been occupied formerly as a tanyard. The fame of the smoked fish was widespread, and "Burlington Roe Herring" had a place on the menu cards of hotels and cafés in Liverpool and London. A news item, published in the forties, when Wesley Mitchell was conducting the business, states that

the establishment cleaned, smoked, boxed up and shipped away to market sixty thousand herring in one week.

Along in the early forties George P. Mitchell, who had opened an establishment for the sale of cakes and confectionery, became the first manufacturer and dealer in ice cream on an extended scale in Burlington. He built a large ice house near the foot of Dilwyn Street, and was the pioneer in gathering ice from the river. He also conceived an interesting and novel method of manufacturing ice. From the roof to the floor of his ice house he suspended cords. Water was allowed to trickle down and drop upon these lines, which froze into columns and gradually grew into stalactites of ice.

In the middle forties William W. Miller was manufacturing hats in a building which stood on the site of the Joshua Taylor Company's office building on High Street. A specimen hat, made by him, is in the collection of the Burlington County Historical Society.

Dr. William Wright was at this time carrying the name of Burlington to widely distant points, wherever his celebrated "Indian Vegetable Pills" became a household remedy, just as Joseph Sholl did in later years with his famous "Infallible Chill Pills." Dr. Wright rolled his pills in a large brick factory on the Decker property, near High and Second Streets. Its weather vane was a glittering representation in metal of the comet of 1845. At the northeast corner of High and Second Streets the doctor put up a club house for his employes. The section became known as Wrightsville. The City Park was opened at this time by the doctor and donated to the city. Dr. Wright died, the pill industry declined and changed its base of operations, and the factory stood vacant until 1867, when it was occupied for a time by R. T. Wood & Company as a shoe factory. A few years later it was destroyed by fire.

The Sylvan Lakes are a memorial of another almost forgotten Burlington industry of that period. William Griffith, a prominent Burlington lawyer, became interested in the manufacture of woolen goods, and erected a factory for the purpose at the junction of South Wood Street and the Mill Road. He constructed the Sylvan Lakes as a source of water power. Although he spent one hundred thousand dollars on the project it proved unsuccessful. The woolen factory became the property of Garret D. Wall, who converted it into a grist mill. In later years John Mitchell acquired ownership and during the sixties David P. Lukens operated it, grinding his own grain for the market, and that which was brought to the mill from neighboring grain farms.

Probably no one can say certainly when and by whom shoes were first made in Burlington. The earliest mention of this industry gives us the date 1828. Burlington was then a little more than a country village, although dignified as a chartered city. The railroad had not then been built and the baker's dozen shoemakers in Burlington sent their products in wagons and by boats to Philadelphia, or carried them there in large baskets at the end of each week.

Those who shipped by wagon made the trip in a day, a circumstance which compelled them to start at four o'clock in the morning, and they frequently did not get home until nine or ten o'clock at night. At that time the passage from Camden to Philadelphia was made in summer by horse-boats, worked by a sweep, and in winter by row boats. Sometimes three or four hours would be consumed in crossing the river.

The pioneers in shoe manufacturing were George P. Mitchell, David D. Mitchell, Noah E. Lippincott, Benjamin and Joseph Lippincott. The "Shanghai Building," as it was facetiously called, at the northeast corner of High and



Pearl Streets, was built by David Mitchell for a wholesale shoe factory, the first of its kind of any consequence in Burlington. About the year 1832 Aaron Hutchins, a New Yorker, came to Burlington and established himself in the business, and about 1835 William Garwood, a native of Burlington, began to manufacture.

When the railroad was completed in 1836 great changes began to come in Burlington. New life was put into everything. The shoe people began to push out and their goods were shipped to all points, chiefly to the South. From 1840 to 1860 was the heyday for the shoemakers and they made money fast.

Mr. Hutchins was one of the most extensive operators at that time. He employed as many as one hundred men and seventy-five women. Saturday was pay day and the roll amounted to nearly a thousand dollars per week.

The uppers and linings, tied in bundles of single dozens, were taken out by women who sewed the leather uppers together, and lined and bound them by hand in their homes (the sewing machine had not come yet) and returned them to their employers. The fitted uppers and a proper quantity of sole leather were issued to the shoemakers, who took them home and completed the work of making the shoes by hand, "pulling the cords of misery," as it was humorously described. The man who made seven dollars a week and the woman who made four dollars were good wage earners. It was quite common for both husband and wife to be engaged upon the shoes, and thus they made the money to buy the properties in which their descendants may be living.

Great changes came over the shoe industry in the early sixties. The firing upon Fort Sumpter and the subsequent well known events broke the Southern creditors of the Burlington shoe manufacturers, many of whom were compelled to suspend, some temporarily, others permanently. Then



the journeymen shoemakers went into the army and for some years the shoe trade in Burlington was negligible.

An astonishing revival of the industry came soon after the close of the Civil War. The manufacturers got on their feet and found new markets. Machines for sewing and other operations began to be introduced and necessitated changes in the manner of doing business. Some of the men who had been scattered by the war began business on their own account and it is creditable to record that some of the most successful of them were but journeymen shoemakers before the war.

These operators bought their stock and sold their goods on long credits. Some Philadelphia houses, notably John Mundell & Co., supplied machinery and leather and took shoes in pay therefor. Factory after factory, equipped with machines for performing almost every part of the work formerly done by hand, sprang up in various sections of Burlington within fifteen years after the surrender of Lee.

The earliest of these was the firm of R. T. Wood & Co., established in 1867. Three years later James Harris had his factory in operation. Then came the firm of G. W. Lewis & Co., in 1874, closely followed by Kimble & Weest, in 1875. Rogers & Woodington began the business in 1879; T. P. & S. S. Smith in 1881 and W. T. Bunting and Thomas Stokley soon after.

The most important of them all came in 1884, when J. Frank Budd and William D. Prickett, employes of the Wood factory, engaged in business for themselves in a small building on West Delaware Avenue, with power furnished by the Severns Mill. Mr. Prickett soon retired and Mr. Budd continued the business with such success that his establishment at Penn and Dilwyn Streets became recognized as the largest in America making baby shoes exclusively.

Many smaller concerns, making shoes, succeeded each

other so rapidly that their names are rarely mentioned today, but so numerous were they that, it is said, there were twenty-seven shoe factories, large and small, in operation in Burlington at one time. Now they are all gone, all the old familiar firms and factories, and but one producer of shoes, a firm of comparatively recent origin, the Burlington Turn Shoe Co., represents this once famous industry.

The canning of fruits and vegetables was also a prominent industry immediately following the War of the Rebellion. The pioneer in this business in Burlington and, it is claimed, in New Jersey, was Timothy Gilbert who engaged in it in 1861. Soon after this James P. Lowden and John F. Lowden acquired the business. James P. Lowden's interest was sold to Nehemiah Sleeper and in 1866 Lowden & Sleeper were succeeded by Sleeper, Wells & Aldrich. William S. King began to put up pickles and pack canned goods in 1864. At his death, in 1872, he was succeeded by his son, Charles S. King, who eight years later sold the business to Githens & Rexsamer, of Philadelphia.

These two factories were located on York Street, between Broad and Federal Streets, and industry fairly hummed on that block from early summer until late in the fall for more than a score of years. In 1867 the Kirby Brothers began the manufacture of canned goods and pickles in a factory which was located on the site of the present Robert Stacy Junior High School, and later sold their plant to the Water Brothers, of Frankford, Pa. William H. Birkmire started a can making factory on Stacy Street in 1870 and engaged in the canning business on West Federal Street in 1878.

The goods from the Burlington canneries found a ready sale in the markets of Philadelphia and New York, gave employment to nearly a thousand men, women and girls, and required the crops of thousands of acres of neighboring

farm lands to supply the demand for raw material. A quarter of a century ago this business passed away from Burlington with the exception of one cannery, established in recent years by Ivans Pettit, on Belmont Street.

The Carbon Stove Company, which organized in 1868 and erected a commodious building along the Assiscunk Creek, now occupied by the Stuart & Peterson Company; the National Engraving Company, who took over this building in 1879, when the stove company vacated it; the Sluice factory, which housed the industry of manufacturing berry boxes and advertising fans and was later occupied as a terra cotta works; Theodore P. Apple's terra cotta works on East Pearl Street; the straw envelope factory of William Tillinghast, on East Union Street; the Burlington Stove Works, on Tatham Street near Pearl Street, established by Charles P. Farner, who later erected another small foundry on York Street; the Thread Works at the corner of Pearl and Tatham Streets which later removed to Florence; the Parvin Iron Wagon Company, which flourished for a short time on West Delaware Avenue; and the fabrication of fine carriages by John Craft in the building erected by him on West Broad Street, are among the many diversified industries of Burlington, for half a century following the Civil War, which have discontinued business.

It is extremely difficult to believe that but a little more than three quarters of a century ago the people of Burlington, from a practical knowledge, did not know what a steam engine was until William R. Allen introduced the first one in the city—an engine with a history fully as interesting as that of the world-famous "John Bull" locomotive engine.

Mr. Allen procured this engine to furnish power for grinding tree bark for tanning purposes in the tanyard operated on the east side of Wood Street just north of West Union Street. Mr. Allen was Mayor of Burlington for six-

teen years and a member of the State Legislature. The engine was originally a traction locomotive, and was used to run over the turnpike from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh. The tires of the wheels were sixteen inches broad and so arranged with cogs that the engine easily climbed the Allegheny Mountain system, and drew tons of freight over the six hundred long miles. When it had done years of this service it was taken to Philadelphia, dismantled and put to work in a stone yard. There Mr. Allen found it.

He was grinding bark by horse-power. Having advanced ideas he wisely concluded that horseflesh cost more in the end than wood and oil, and decided to put the engine in his tannery. It was brought to Burlington by Mr. Allen, and John Broomhead, who at that time was an apprentice at the tannery trade. Mr. Allen kept the engine in operation some fifteen or sixteen years. It was finally sold to James Lowden, who removed it to Lamberton, and it has since been lost sight of.

The next stationary engine to appear in Burlington was brought here by Thomas Dugdale & Son in 1841 to furnish power for their saw mill on East Pearl Street, where the water works are now located. It did service for many years. Thus was steam power introduced in Burlington.

Among the present manufacturing industries of Burlington there are but four survivors of the group that flourished here prior to the seventies.

THE OLIVER BAKERY is the oldest of these, and is the third oldest of the surviving firms doing business of any kind in Burlington. This bakery was established in 1859 by the late Henry F. Oliver, father of the present proprietor. The product of their ovens is cake and pastry. Five men and fifteen women are employed.

J. T. SEVERNS SONS AND CO. rank next in age. The original style of the firm was Severns & Sherman, who



began business in 1861 in a mill located on West Delaware Avenue. In 1865 John T. Severns became the sole proprietor. His son Joseph P. Severns was admitted to partnership and the business bore the name of J. T. Severns & Son until 1881 when, upon the admission of Albertus L. Severns, the style of the firm changed to J. T. Severns & Sons. Upon the death of John T. Severns, Samuel J. McClenahan became a member of the firm, and it is now known as the J. T. Severns Sons & Co. With the production of the Burlington fruit box, an invention of John T. Severns, and of crates for canned goods, furnished to the canneries when that industry flourished in Burlington, the Severns mill did a rousing business. The mill suffered destruction by fire, and the present finely equipped plant was established at East Union Street and the Assiscunk Creek, on the historic site where the "Palace of Tatham" was erected in 1689. In later years the Severns mill has made a specialty of architectural woodwork in addition to building lumber and stock mill work.

THE BIRCH CARRIAGE FACTORY had its beginning in 1862 when James H. Birch came to Burlington and established a carriage repair shop at the southwest corner of Broad and Library Streets. Mr. Birch visioned a market for the modest priced buggy. He abandoned the repair business and took up the manufacture of the best buggy that could be bought anywhere for the price. A rapid sale was found for all he could produce and the Birch buggy became the best known vehicle in the East. For a long time the business doubled itself every year.

In 1867 a large factory on Library Street was erected; later a wing was added to it; and in 1881 Mr. Birch built the three-story brick factory adjoining it. The old shop at Broad and Library Streets was remodeled into an imposing harness department. The manufacture of modest

priced sleighs was also taken up and the factory in East Burlington was added to the plant. In these later years Mr. Birch was assisted by his sons, Richard, as superintendent of the factory, Thomas H., as manager of the horse equipment department, and James H., Jr., as sales agent.

In his mission James H., Jr. traveled around the world several times studying the vehicle needs of the various countries, and soon the Birch factory was supplying jinrikishas to the Japanese; to the Koreans the peculiar one-wheel cart resembling a wheelbarrow which the Koreans prefer; to Cuba the favorite volante; to South Americans their own style of trekking wagon; to the Madeira Islands the peculiar mountain sledges in use there; and to India the several different kinds of curious vehicles characteristic of that country. An enormous world-wide business was built up, and the Birch factories were turning out over one hundred styles of carriages, carts and phaetons of all designs, and the various types of foreign and colonial vehicles.

The Birch factory had the distinction of conducting a strictly cash business in its purchases. At the close of each business day not a dollar was owing by Mr. Birch. Another unique feature was Mr. Birch's account with the horse and carriage bazaars of A. M. Herkness & Co. and P. P. S. Nichols & Co., of Philadelphia. He began dealing with them from the opening of his own business, and his was the only customer's name on the books of both houses when they closed their business. Mr. Birch is living at this writing (in 1927). Richard died in 1910, Thomas H. became Minister to Portugal under the Wilson administration and James H., Jr., continues in the management of the factory.

THE UNITED STATES CAST IRON PIPE AND FOUNDRY COMPANY dates its origin in the early seventies when John McNeal came to Burlington, bought fifty acres of ground in East Burlington and erected what in his day was conceded

to be the largest plant in the country devoted exclusively to the manufacture of iron water pipes.

Under the present management large acreage has been secured, the plant increased, the latest methods of production adopted and the main offices of the company moved to Burlington. The output of the plant is shipped to all sections of the United States and to all foreign countries, including India, Cuba, and South America. Eight hundred people are employed in producing cast iron pipe, fittings, sugar evaporating apparatus, gas producers and miscellaneous castings.

THE STUART AND PETERSON COMPANY had been located at Broad and Noble Streets, Philadelphia, for half a century when they came to Burlington, in March 1893, and took over the National Bureau of Engraving building at the corner of Broad and Tatham Streets. The products of this firm are equipment for chemical, pharmaceutical, food and allied industries. Shipments of their wares are made to Japan, India, South Africa, Cuba, South America and Mexico.

THE THOMAS DEVLIN MANUFACTURING COMPANY established their business in Philadelphia in 1881, and began operations in their Burlington plant in 1903. In 1926, some years after the death of Thomas Devlin, the plant was taken over by the Samuel F. Fretz, Jr., Co., the original style of the firm remaining. The number of employes in times of normal production is about five hundred. The Devlin Company's output of malleable iron pipe fittings, builders' and miscellaneous hardware, and special castings, is in demand in nearly all the civilized countries of the world. The most distant shipments are made to India, Japan, Australia and New Zealand.

THE NEIDICH PROCESS COMPANY came to Burlington from Philadelphia in 1906. Its products are carbon paper and typewriter ribbons, and nearly one hundred men and

women are employed. Shipments are made to all countries: Australia, Japan, China, Italy, India, Central America, England, Spain, South America, Mexico and Cuba.

THE NEIDICH CEL-LUS-TRA COMPANY, whose head, Samuel Neidich, had turned his inventive mind to better methods of producing artificial silk, established a plant in Burlington, in 1920, equipped with machinery of his own designing and is now turning out artificial horsehair, human hair, straw and millinery braid, and shipping them to all parts of the United States. This is the only concern in America making the first three products. All their goods are made from wood pulp by the viscose process by which most Rayon is made.

THE BURLINGTON SILK MILLS, in 1908, took over a small factory (the former Thread Works), at Pearl and Tatham Streets, for the weaving of broad silk. In 1910 this building was abandoned and half of the present silk mill at Farnerville was erected. In 1916 an addition was made practically duplicating the original building. Since then all the old machinery has been replaced and additional machinery installed. An engine room and boiler room have been added to provide the power required by the enlarged plant. A new office has also been built and the old office devoted to manufacturing purposes. The factory now has a floor space of sixty thousand square feet. The Burlington Silk Mill makes its power and light, and provides its water supply.

THE JOHN J. MCCANN COMPANY began to manufacture artificial limb supplies twenty-one years ago. It employs forty people and makes shipments to Cuba, Canada, England, France, Australia and New Zealand. It is located in the former G. W. Lewis shoe factory on Lawrence Street.

THE DELAWARE AND ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE CO. established the central office in Burlington in 1898. Thirty-eight people are employed in Burlington.



More than five thousand calls are handled daily. Six hundred of these are out of town calls, and nearly forty-five hundred are local calls, all handled by ten operators.

THE BURLINGTON TURN SHOE COMPANY, the only concern remaining to remind the present generation of Burlington's traditions as a shoe manufacturing center, was established in 1918 by former employes of the once famous Budd factory. Fourteen men and sixteen women are employed in the manufacture of turn shoes for infants, children, and misses, and low cut footwear of the better grades which are sold direct to the retail dealers. Seventy-five per cent of their production goes to the Pacific Coast, but they also supply demands from the Philippine Islands.

THE CENTURY BEVERLY CORPORATION has been established nine years in Burlington making cotton knit underwear. In normal times five men and one hundred women are employed. They supply markets in the United States as far away as California.

BURLINGTON TEXTILE MILLS produce upholstery and drapery fabrics, scarfs and valances. The business is twenty-four years old, and removed to Burlington in 1925. Their fabrics find a ready market in all portions of the United States.

THE PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS CO. established its power plant in Burlington in 1914. Employment is given to one hundred and eighteen men and five women. Light and power are furnished to Hightstown in the east and Woodbury in the south. Intersection is made with the Philadelphia Electric Company at Camden and Trenton.

HEXTER BAKING COMPANY, INC., was originally the Hexter-Diehl Corporation of New York but reincorporated under the present title in Delaware in 1926. Two years ago they took over the Oliver baking plant on Penn Street, Burlington. A specialty is made of Oboy bread, which is

distributed all over Burlington, Camden and Mercer Counties, in New Jersey, and Bucks County in Pennsylvania.

GEORGE T. NEWELL, JR., INC., manufacturers of electric warming pads and supplies, have been doing business in Burlington since 1922, and employ thirty-five people.

H. R. LINDABURY AND SONS have been engaged in the manufacture of all kinds of fruit and vegetable containers for fifteen years. The members of the firm are Edgar Lindabury, Martin H. Lindabury and Glenn A. Lindabury. They established their business in 1912 on an abandoned factory site along the Mount Holly Railroad. Their raw material is poplar and gum logs. They employ from twenty-five to forty men during the busy season, and their yearly output is about one million packages. They find their best market in the Eastern States.

THE NEW JERSEY FENCE COMPANY was taken over by H. R. Lindabury and Sons in the year 1919 and the business was moved to the former Birch Sleigh Factory in East Burlington. They employ about twenty-one men in this plant in producing large quantities of farm and lawn fences.

THE INDEPENDENT ICE CO. are distributors of the product of the Burlington Cold Storage and Freezing Co., who operate an ice-making plant established in 1897 by Herman F. Potter. In 1904 John S. and Harry D. Worthington purchased the plant. They sold it, in 1907, to Werkheiser & Brown. Two years later it was bought at mortgagee's sale by George Burroughs and Samuel Middleton, who conducted it until 1918, when the Burlington Cold Storage and Freezing Co., a corporation, became the owners. They have reinstalled the plant with the latest type of ice-making machinery at a cost of \$85,000.

## Burlington Organizations, Institutions and Departments

THE COUNCIL OF WEST JERSEY PROPRIETORS, an organization that is coeval with the settlement of Burlington, has continued an unbroken line of descent for two hundred and fifty years. The West Jersey Proprietors derived their rights from the Crown. Purchasers of lands were obliged to first obtain consent of the Proprietors, who governed the province until 1702, when they made surrender of authority to Queen Anne.

The "Concessions and Agreements," of 1676, the form of government devised by William Penn and approved by the other Proprietors, regulated the mode of acquiring title to land. No grants or surveys of land were allowed until after the claims of the Indians had been satisfied fairly and voluntarily. Commissioners were appointed to supervise purchases of land; later on they were elected by the Legislature. The quantity of land apportioned in this way does not appear to have been large.

In 1678 the Proprietors created a Proprietary Council of representatives at a meeting held in Burlington on December 4th of that year. It was agreed that "eleven proprietors within the province be yearly and every year elected," six in Burlington and five in Gloucester. These were the only organized counties at the time. Afterward the number was fixed at nine, five of whom were chosen from Burlington. At present there are ten members of the Council, one at Salem. The proprietor of a thirty-second part of a hundredth had the right of voting and being elected to the Council. The owner of any specific number of acres, having no interest in the remainder, had no vote. The proprietors in Gloucester County meet in the city of Gloucester.

The meetings of the Proprietors have been held annually with great punctuality. On April 10th of each year the Burlington Proprietors assemble in accordance with ancient usage, on the northwest corner of High and Broad Streets, regardless of wind or weather, and gravely hold their election. Many years ago a fine dinner was a feature of this occasion, but as the dividends decreased expenses were diminished accordingly.

In 1719 the Legislature passed an act requiring the Surveyors General of East and West Jersey to occupy offices at Perth Amboy and Burlington, where all surveys should be registered. These records are accepted as undisputable proof of title. The records for West Jersey are deposited in the little brick building which was erected on the Friends Meeting ground on West Broad Street, when the original place of deposit was demolished to make room for the new post office building in 1914. In this office of the Surveyor General various ancient books and documents may be found, including the original deed to the territory of the province with the signature of William Penn attached. To those who are fond of searching among the relics of the past, this building offers a field for indulging that inclination.

Many of the original proprietors never left England. Their heirs failed to claim rights and only a score are now known to be proprietors. As the greater part of the unlocated lands of the proprietors has been taken up it is probable that the time may come when the state will make provision for the preservation of these valuable records, and the Council of Proprietors and their meetings may only be known in history. The officers of the Burlington Proprietors are Walter E. Robb, President and Treasurer; Laura Cooper Wood, Vice-President; C. Chester Craig, Clerk; Benjamin A. Sleeper, Surveyor General.



THE BOARD OF ISLAND MANAGERS, the financial support of the public school system of Burlington for more than one hundred and fifty years, was the town's early public school board. This ancient and honorable organization owes its origin to the Act of the General Assembly of September 26, 1682, when a grant of Burlington Island was made to the town that its revenues might be employed "for the encouragement of learning and the better education of youth." This was the earliest foundation for a free school system in America.

It was not until forty-five years later, on March 29, 1727, that the town meeting appointed this first Board of Island Managers "to inspect, inquire and manage the island":—Daniel Smith, Thomas Wetherill, Jonathan Wright, Solomon Smith, Rowland Ellis, Isaac Pearson, and Thomas Shreeve. The board was subject to the authority of the town meeting. Question as to the validity of the town's title to the island seems to have obscured the purpose of the grant for a time and the Island Managers, in the absence of instructions from the town meeting, took no action towards setting up a free school system.

The board also wanted assurance that the phraseology of the Act of 1682, giving the island "to and for the use of the town of Burlington and to others concerned therein, within the first and second tenths," might not be construed as including other schools in the territory adjacent to the town of Burlington. A committee was appointed to make an inspection of the law. An explanation of the meaning of the designation, "tenth," is required here. When the lands in West Jersey were apportioned to the purchasers by the Proprietors they divided the territory into ten portions designated by the letters "A" to "K," omitting "I." The first "tenth" was all that tract along the river from the Falls of the Delaware to Rancocas Creek, of which Burlington was

but a small part. The second "tenth" included the lands from Rancocas Creek to Timber Creek.

This committee did not report to a meeting of the board until March 6, 1783. It was their conclusion that the Act of Assembly of 1682, making the grant, and the Act of October 18, 1693, establishing the bounds of the town, made it clear that the rent of the island could not be lawfully expended for any other purpose than for the support of education in schools within the limits of the town of Burlington.

The record of a portion of this period of doubt and investigation shows that the island revenues were small, and were turned over to the poor fund of the town to be disbursed by the Overseer of the Poor. On occasion other public needs were met by the use of the income from the island. In 1759 the town wharf became dilapidated and the rent of the island was devoted to the needed repair.

Eighty-five years had elapsed since the gift of the island by the General Assembly when, in March, 1767, the town meeting appointed a committee to prepare a plan for a free school. Two months later the Island Managers were instructed to establish a school for the education of orphan children and the children of the poor. There was no school building and the Board placed the pupils of the "Burlington Free School," as it was designated, in the private schools of the town. At the outset the number of children thus provided with educational advantages was small. In 1807 there were but twenty-five pupils enrolled. An illustration of the personal interest manifested by this early board of education in the moral, as well as mental, growth of the children under their care is found in a standing regulation adopted by the Board of Island Managers that "children continuing in the Free School attend some place of worship on the Sabbath." An order to that effect was served upon the parents.

As the years passed the island farms were improved through allowances made to the tenants for that purpose from the rentals, which were increased until the lessees were paying seventeen hundred dollars per year in 1819, with an additional one hundred and fifty dollars for the privilege of a fishery on the island shore. With this greater revenue the number of pupils increased to sixty-two, and four years later one hundred poor children were enjoying the advantages of free education in Burlington.

Supplementing the profits from the island, Mary Coxe, a public-spirited Burlington woman, made a bequest of two hundred pounds, the interest to be employed in schooling children, or the principal in building a schoolhouse. A part of the Coxe legacy was applied to the purchase of a lot at the northeast corner of Broad and St. Mary Streets, and in 1805 a two-story building of brick was erected on the lot by the Island Managers—the first public school building in Burlington.

From this time until 1852 there is no record of the activities of the Board. The book of minutes for that intervening period has been lost. We know that in the meantime the state government had become interested in public schools and in the island fund. In 1824 the Legislature passed "An Act to incorporate the Managers of the Island Fund for the Education of Youth in the Town of Burlington." That was the first legislation concerning the island taken after the transfer of the title in 1682. Five years later, in 1829, the townships of the several counties were divided by legislative enactment into school districts, and State monies were appropriated for public school purposes. Burlington City became Union District No. 1. Since that time the public schools of Burlington have been supported by funds derived from state appropriations, local taxation and the revenues from the island.

In 1848 the Legislature again became interested in the island fund, and passed an act combining the Island Managers with the Board of Trustees for all general school purposes in Burlington. The two boards met in joint session. The control of the island remained with the managers, and the proceeds were turned over to the general fund of the trustees. This arrangement continued in effect until the school law of 1894 was enacted. Since then the two boards have functioned independently.

In 1852 the act of incorporation of 1824 was repealed and the Island Board was reincorporated under the title of "Managers and Treasurer of the Fund for the Education of Youth in the City of Burlington." The board is now operating under that charter. The members of the first board elected under the new charter were Thomas Milnor, Franklin Woolman, Daniel Vansciver, John Mitchell, William R. Deacon, Lewis C. Leeds and Lewis T. Price. The first act of the new board was the sale of the lower half of the island to the Burlington Island Land Association for the sum of twenty thousand one hundred dollars. The purchasers paid ten thousand one hundred dollars in cash and gave a mortgage for the remaining ten thousand.

The resources of the Island Managers have been chiefly applied to erecting school houses when the need arose for them, and Burlington was saved taxation for that purpose for nearly a hundred years. The benefits arising from the Island Fund during the earlier years of scant record can only be approximated. We know that from 1767 a small group of children received schooling, and that in 1805 a two-story brick schoolhouse was erected. In 1846 the Island Managers built the Stacy Street school, abandoned in 1899. In 1856 they exchanged with St. Marys Church the school building and lot at Broad and St. Mary Streets for the lot at St. Mary and Barclay Streets, and erected at a cost of



five thousand dollars the building (since enlarged) now known as the Captain James Lawrence School. When the William R. Allen School for colored children was built in 1866 the Island Managers contributed twenty-five hundred dollars of the cost. Twelve years later they bought the lot at York and Clarkson Streets and built the James Fenimore Cooper School, at a total cost of six thousand dollars; and in 1888 supplied a large part of the funds needed to erect the Stephen Grellet School in East Burlington. The Island Board financed these important operations by making bond issues, based on the collateral security represented by mortgages they held, and by creating a sinking fund from the revenues received from island rent and interest on their invested funds.

In addition to caring for these building operations the Island Managers turned over to the Board of Education from time to time, various sums to be used for repairs and school supplies until a few years prior to the extensive school improvements of 1899. Antagonism had arisen between the Island Board and the Board of Education, and the island revenues were not employed for the use of the Board of Education for a time. Then came reconciliation between the two boards and the accumulated revenues from the island fund were disbursed for the purchase of the site of the Elias Boudinot School, and to provide some of the furniture needed in the enlarged school buildings.

The school improvement operations of 1899 and 1900 included the enlargement of the Lawrence, Cooper, Allen and Grellet schools and the erection of the new Boudinot School. The total cost approximated forty thousand dollars. The Board of Island Managers assumed this obligation, and pledged the island revenues for the retirement of the bond issue. This employs nearly the entire income of the managers so that other appropriations of island monies

for school purposes since 1900 have not been possible, with the exception of the iron fence around the Lawrence School lot, erected at a cost of six hundred and fifty dollars.

A summary of the benefits derived by Burlington from the gift of the island by the General Assembly of 1682 discloses some impressive facts. The seven school buildings erected in Burlington prior to 1910 were provided wholly and in part by the Island Board. Frequent and liberal appropriations have been made from time to time for other school needs. In addition to meeting the expenses incident to the upkeep of the island property the revenue from this mid-river possession of Burlington represents a net sum of more than one hundred thousand dollars applied directly to public school purposes.

The members of the Board are (in 1927) W. E. Schermerhorn, President; Harold T. Blinn, Secretary; Theodore F. Ellis, Joseph H. Johnson, Willard S. Condle and Carleton E. Sholl. The Treasurer is David V. Holmes. J. LeClerc Shedaker, the seventh member of the Board, died in May, 1927.

THE FRIENDLY INSTITUTION was organized by fifteen members of the Society of Friends who met on Christmas Eve, 1796, to consider the formation of an association to relieve the distressful condition in the community which followed the close of the Revolutionary War.

This meeting was held in the house No. 320 High Street, then occupied by Nathaniel Coleman, the Quaker silversmith. Besides the host and hostess there were Daniel Smith, Jr., and his wife, Hannah; Margaret Barker, Mary Wetherill, wife of Joseph; Amy Rogers, Mary Newbold, Rachel Hoskins, daughter of John; Mary D. Smith, Sarah Smith, wife of Solomon; Margaret Smith, William Allinson, Robert Smith, Jr., Theodosia Carey, and John Griscom, a young teacher in the little brick school house which

had just been erected by the Preparative Meeting at the corner of Penn and York Streets. Theodosia Carey was a wealthy woman who then lived in the property on High Street adjoining the Weaver pharmacy, and owned much of the land which is now East Union Street.

Amelia Mott Gummere caught and fixed the atmosphere of the time and the occasion when she wrote: "Picture the candles in the bright silver sconces and candlesticks that added their soft light to the wood fire on the hearth, the candlesticks wrought by the host, the candles dipped by the hostess. The men are in large skirt coats and small clothes, with hats wider, but a degree less fiercely cocked than those of the 'World's people'; for you must know that, although some of them do not know it, the Quakers have followed the fashions, in spite of themselves, and the Quaker of the Revolution and the period immediately following it is a far different figure from the Quaker of today—and far more picturesque. The snuff boxes, long canes and silver buckles that attended the early meetings of the Friendly Society still exist. The women wore gowns of plain colors with a tendency, in the less severely plain, to higher stays, a larger circumference in the skirt and a more jaunty touch to the cap, copied from the English cousins, and perched at a high angle on the top of the head with a decidedly perky effect when seen from behind. The gowns were full and straight and cleared the ground well, were cut low in the neck and worn with a kerchief of fine muslin or lawn, with sleeves extending only to the elbows, there being joined by silk gauntlets, or mitts, for protection to the arms. The pointed waist descended upon the petticoat which was of quilted silk, satin or wool and over which the gown opened for its better display. The hour was the early one of seven and the knocking of snow from shoes and warming of hands and tapping of snuff boxes and much thee-ing and thou-ing were

soon followed by the suggestion that 'we get to business', and to John Griscom, the schoolmaster, naturally fell the office of clerk."

A committee was formed for the preparation of rules and regulations for the government of the Society and at an adjourned meeting three days later, held at the house of Robert Smith, Jr., these were read and approved and the Society was fully organized by the election of these first officers: William Allinson, Treasurer; Theodosia Carey, Steward; Robert Smith, Jr., Clerk, and Margaret Smith, Mary Newbold, Martha Barker, Elizabeth Coleman, William Allinson, the Committee of Distribution. William Allinson served as treasurer forty-four years. Robert Thomas succeeded him and served thirty-eight years.

While organized by Friends, the Society became undenominational at its second meeting when the wife of Governor Bloomfield was elected to membership and it has remained undenominational ever since. The number of regular members is limited to thirty, and monthly meetings are held on the first Monday in each month, when a new Committee of Distribution is appointed. The duty of this committee is to investigate the merits of the cases that come before them, visit the applicants and administer to their necessities. The Friendly Institution became an incorporated body on March 10, 1837, that it might be authorized to receive legacies and bequests. This charter was renewed in 1872. From time to time there have been legacies and donations which have given a permanent fund. In addition to the income from these, annual subscriptions are made by a number of persons who do not act as regular members. In this way means are provided for employing a public nurse to visit the needy sick, and for distributing judicious gifts of medicine, food, fuel and clothing among such unfortunate persons as may not come within the care of the overseer.



of the poor. In this way the Friendly Institution has been unostentatiously relieving distress among the deserving poor of Burlington for one hundred and thirty years.

THE BURLINGTON LIBRARY is one of the city's venerable institutions which seems to remain perennially young. It had its beginning in November, 1757, when, as recorded in the well preserved volume of minutes of the Burlington Library Company, "several inhabitants of New Jersey, thinking a Library Company in the city of Burlington would be of great benefit to the members, as well as to the public in general, did speak to the number of sixty, who formed themselves into a company and agreed to pay ten shillings per annum in support of the Library."

Through the good offices of John Reading, President of His Majesty's Council and Commander-in-Chief of New Jersey, a charter was granted to the company by King George II. The first meeting of the directors was held in November, 1758, in the parlor of Thomas Rodman's house, No. 446 South High Street, now the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Hare, and the company agreed to pay five dollars a year for the use of Rodman's best room in which to meet and keep their books. The first books were donated by the members and their friends. The rules and by-laws adopted at that time, with but few amendments, are in force at the present time. The seal adopted, January 16, 1759, and made in Burlington, is the same, except the motto, as that now found on the inside cover of every book in the library.

In 1767 the company met, and the books were kept in Robert Smith's house, now 218 High Street. In 1789 they removed to their own library building on Office Street, which since that time has been called Library Street. The lot was provided by Governor Bloomfield, and fifty dollars in paper money was paid for the little frame structure erected upon

it. James Hunter Sterling, a prominent citizen, and a director of the Library Company for twenty-three years, bequeathed five thousand dollars for the purchase of books with the expressed condition that a suitable building, eligibly located, should be erected within three years of his death.

In 1864 the building now occupied as a library was erected by subscriptions from citizens. The attractive library room is admirably arranged but unfortunately has grown too small. New books have been added until the crowded shelves now hold over ten thousand volumes. Among the books is a Latin work published in 1529, and a Vulgate edition of the *Biblia Sacra*, dated 1706. There is also a copy of Audubon's *Quadrupeds*, colored by hand, a rare work of which there are not more than a half dozen copies extant.

The portraits gracing the walls include those of His Majesty George II, Governor Joseph Bloomfield, Samuel R. Wetherill, president of the company for thirty-six years, William J. Allinson, Dr. N. W. Cole, another president; Thomas Milnor, William R. Allen, for twenty years a director of the Library Company, and Mayor of Burlington for sixteen years; Richard F. Mott, another president; William D. Hewitt, George W. Hewitt, Richard Mott, William F. Smith, an early librarian, and others. It has been written that "among the founders of the Burlington Library Company were men whose names the people of Burlington will not willingly suffer to die, and among its officers in successive generations were illustrious and good men whose name and fame are identified with history."

Many curious and interesting gifts have been received from time to time. The earliest was a "pistol piece" presented by Ebenezer Large, whose name is almost forgotten, and whose descendants are unknown to Burlington. He stipulated that the "pistol piece" should be sold, the amount

realized to be expended for a copy of the best Bible to be placed in the library. Mary Lovell, daughter of one of the earliest settlers arriving in the ship *Kent* in 1677, donated twenty pounds. Some curiosities presented in 1799 are referred to in the records of the Library as having been brought "five hundred leagues west of the Missouri River." Some Chinese figures are mentioned as being "completely dressed in the style of China."

William Sorsby, an eccentric character of whom but little is known beyond the tradition that he was the original of "Judge Temple" in James Fenimore Cooper's novel, *The Pioneers*, bequeathed to the Library Company his windsor chair, his walking stick studded with large headed brass tacks, and his portrait drawn by himself. Sorsby's opinion of writers and publishers is indicated by the last clause in his curious will which reads: "I hereby forewarn all printers not to print any Lies about Him for he has been Belied enough in His Life so that there is no room to Bely Him when Dead." One of the most liberal patrons of the Library in recent years was the late George W. Hewitt. Many valuable works now on the library shelves were his generous gifts.

The history of the library abounds with interesting reminiscences of earlier days. Here is one gathered from the minutes of the company dated December 4, 1763. Dennis Kilfoil, a servant of Governor William Franklin, had been convicted of a crime for which he was sentenced to be executed. When numerous citizens of Burlington petitioned for a respite and pardon, the Governor remitted the sentence and gave Kilfoil to the Library Company with the condition that he be transported and sold as a slave for the benefit of the library fund. The offer was accepted. Kilfoil was required to give an indenture to Levi Worrell, of the

Library Company, for seven years, and was shipped to the West Indies where he was sold into service in Jamaica.

The library was maintained by readership fees until some years ago when Common Council, after a conference with the Board of Directors, passed an ordinance providing an annual appropriation with the understanding that the institution be conducted as a free library. The Board of Directors in 1927, listed in accordance with tradition in the order of their seniority as members, are Walter E. Robb, Treasurer; Edward J. Thomason, Cooper H. Prickett, President; Howard Eastwood, James T. Riley, A. L. Severns, Robert Turner, Vice President; M. T. O'Shaughnessy, Charles A. Rigg, Secretary; James H. Birch, Jr., W. E. Schermerhorn, Harold V. Holmes.

MECHANICS NATIONAL BANK was organized under an act of the Legislature passed March 5, 1839. The Commissioners were William R. Allen, George Gaskill, Thomas Milnor, John Roberts and Isaac Martin. The capital stock was fifty thousand dollars, divided into two thousand shares which were subscribed for by two hundred and sixty-two stockholders.

The first Board of Directors, elected April 26, 1839, was William R. Allen, Samuel R. Gummere, John Hulme, Thomas Dutton, James Sterling, Caleb R. Smith, Thomas Milnor, John C. Deacon, Aaron Wills, Peter H. Ellis, George D. Smith, Dr. Charles Ellis and George Gaskill. The first meeting of the Board of Directors was held at the home of Samuel Rogers, and on May 2 they met in the new banking house on High Street for the first time. This building was owned by Dr. Charles Ellis and was occupied by William R. Allen. It stood on the present site of the store building No. 315, on the east side of High Street, between Union and Broad Streets.

The first officers were elected on April 29, at the meeting



held in Samuel Rogers' house. They were William R. Allen, President; Archibald W. Burns, Cashier; Joseph W. Griffith, Clerk. The bank opened for business July 9, 1839. The old banking building on West Broad Street was erected in 1845. George Gaskill was chosen to succeed Mr. Burns as Cashier June 17, 1845. He was followed by James Sterling on June 24, 1850. Nathan Haines became Cashier January 15, 1869 and held that position until his death. The Cashiers since that time have been I. Snowden Haines, James H. Birch, Jr., and the present incumbent, Robert Turner.

The Presidents since William R. Allen, who held the office until his death in November 1863, have been John C. Deacon, elected in 1863, Dr. J. Howard Pugh in 1869, and upon his death the present head of the bank, George A. Allinson.

The Mechanics Bank was reorganized as a national bank May 16, 1865, under the name of Mechanics National Bank, and the capital was increased to one hundred thousand dollars by taking over fifty thousand dollars from the surplus making the par value of the stock fifty dollars instead of twenty-five dollars. In January 1869, the number of Directors was reduced to seven members, a decided change in management.

Throughout the many financial disturbances suffered by the country since the bank was organized its credit has remained high and it has done a safe and profitable business. In 1926-27 the present bank building, so well adapted to the comfort and convenience of its officials and its patrons, was erected on the site occupied for more than two hundred years by the historic Smith house, which dated from 1703.

THE BURLINGTON BANK, chartered in 1855, went out of business in 1865, when the Secretary of the Treasury decided that banks having so small a capital as fifty thou-

sand dollars would not be permitted to organize as national banks. Under that decision, and with State taxes and other expenses increasing, the directors decided to go into liquidation.

The first meeting of the stockholders of the Burlington Bank was held in the City Hotel (now the Metropolitan Inn) May 3, 1855. A lot was purchased from Samuel W. Taylor at the northwest corner of High and Union Streets and a bank building erected. The first officers were: President, George W. Smith; Cashier, George Gaskill; Teller, John Rodgers. Robert B. Aertsen succeeded Mr. Gaskill as Cashier; he was followed by John Rodgers, and upon the resignation of the latter, in 1865, Nathan Haines, who had been serving as Teller, was chosen Cashier and retained that position until the business of the bank was closed on September 1, 1865. The bank building was then sold to Samuel W. Taylor and was occupied as the United States Post Office until the early 80's when the Government removed the business to the Savings Institution building, which has been demolished in 1927 to provide a site for the new bank building of the Burlington City Loan and Trust Company.

THE BURLINGTON SAVINGS INSTITUTION was organized in 1857. The purpose of its founder, Robert Thomas, who served as its Treasurer during the first twenty-two years of its history, was to provide an opportunity for the working people of Burlington to save surplus earnings and have them kept safely where they might grow by accretions of additional deposits and interest.

The institution was housed at first in a little frame building which stood on the site where, in 1881, the directors erected an ornate brick building which has given way (in 1927) to the handsome bank building to be occupied jointly by the Burlington City Loan and Trust Company and the Burlington Savings Institution.

The original incorporators were Ira B. Underhill, William Bishop, Robert Thomas, Franklin Woolman, Frederick F. Bainbridge, Dr. Franklin Gauntt, Amos George, Aaron Hutchins, John Mitchell, William B. Price. The first President was Ira B. Underhill, who served but five months when he was removed by death. The second President was William Bishop, whose term of office covered a period of thirty years. He died May 15, 1887, at the advanced age of eighty-nine. For the five months of Mr. Underhill's Presidency Mr. Bishop served as Vice President. Rowland J. Dutton, the third President, was elected July 9, 1887, and continued in that position until January 6, 1891, when he assumed the more active duties of Treasurer. In this latter office he remained until his death, March 28, 1905. Mr. Dutton had served, in 1887, for three months as Vice-President so that he held in turn each position—President, Vice-President and Treasurer. Francis W. Milnor was the fifth President, and held office from January 17, 1891 to October 10, 1896. He was followed by Charles M. Allen, who served until July 8, 1905, when Richard Mott became the sixth President. Mr. Mott was followed in turn by G. W. Lewis, Sr., William D'Olier, who had previously occupied the Vice-Presidency, and Edward J. Thomason, who is President in 1927.

Franklin Woolman, at his death in 1887, was the last surviving incorporator, and held the office of Vice-President for thirty years. Dr. J. Howard Pugh was another Vice-President. Richard F. Mott was the second Treasurer, occupying the position from the time of his appointment in 1879 to his death in 1891. The present Treasurer is Walter E. Robb.

BURLINGTON CITY LOAN AND TRUST COMPANY, incorporated September 21, 1900, was established to take care of the growing financial needs of the community. The first

Board of Directors was Dr. J. Howard Pugh, Andrew H. McNeal, Griffith W. Lewis, Henry J. Irick, George A. Al-  
linson, Howard Flanders and Richard Mott. The company  
commenced business in April, 1901, in a room in the Dr.  
Ellis building on West Broad Street. Then space in the  
Mechanics National Bank building was occupied until 1907,  
when the granite building, Nos. 327-329 High Street, was  
erected. In 1927 a handsome bank building was in course  
of erection on the former site of the Burlington Savings  
Institution, to accommodate the increasing business of the  
company.

The Presidents of the Burlington City Loan and Trust  
Company since its incorporation have been J. Howard  
Pugh, Henry J. Irick, William D'Olier. The present offi-  
cers are Walter E. Robb, President; Edward J. Thomason,  
Vice-President; W. Edward Ridgway, Second Vice-Presi-  
dent and Treasurer; Harold V. Holmes, Secretary and  
Trust Officer; Louis H. Keifer, Assistant Treasurer and  
Assistant Secretary; William J. Sutts, Assistant Treasurer;  
David B. Robb, Assistant Treasurer; Ernest Watts, Solicit-  
or.

THE CITY OF BURLINGTON BUILDING AND LOAN ASSO-  
CIATION was organized in 1868 with J. B. Roberts, Presi-  
dent; R. J. Dutton, Treasurer; Henry Moffett, Secretary.

FARMERS AND MECHANICS BUILDING AND LOAN ASSO-  
CIATION was incorporated April 1, 1871. The first officers  
were J. H. Park, President; Nathan Haines, Treasurer;  
Henry S. Haines, Secretary.

BURLINGTON WATER DEPARTMENT.—The Delaware  
River, Assiscunk Creek, and other smaller streams, which  
made Burlington practically an island when the settlers  
arrived in 1677, was their sole dependence for water at  
first, supplemented later by wells and pumps at various  
points in the town.



This condition continued until early in the nineteenth century when William Coxe, Thompson Neal, Abraham Stockton and John Hoskins, Jr., organized the Burlington Aqueduct Company and obtained from the Legislature, on October 31, 1804, a charter authorizing them to operate under that title to supply water to the city of Burlington. Just at that time Philadelphia was substituting iron pipes on Market Street for the wooden log conduits which had been in service for seventy years. These were purchased by the Burlington Aqueduct Company and laid from a reservoir constructed on the high land at Springside, which abounded with springs of water seemingly sufficient in volume and elevation to provide for the most ordinary domestic needs.

The supply thus obtained was meagre, and limited to a small section of the city. To remedy this condition Thomas Dugdale, who had built a large number of houses in the eastern section of the city, became a competitor of the Aqueduct Company. To increase the supply of water to his own residence and his other properties, he laid iron pipes of small dimensions along the streets he had improved, and connected them with a pump worked by the steam engine at his grist and saw mills, which stood on the present Water Works lot.

The Aqueduct Company remonstrated. Mr. Dugdale's movement met with so much public approval that Council was petitioned to permit him to lay water pipe through other streets. Council consented on condition that the city have the use of twenty-five fire hydrants without cost. A few years later Mr. Dugdale acquired the Aqueduct Company's franchise. He remained the sole proprietor until the works were purchased by the Burlington Water Company, a stock organization. It provided the city's water supply until the works were purchased by the city, in 1877, under provisions

of an act passed by the Legislature enabling cities to obtain "a supply of pure and wholesome water."

An ordinance was passed by Common Council creating a Board of Water Commissioners to manage and control the Water Department, and defining their powers and duties. The first Water Board appointed by Council was Alexander Martin, James O'Neill, Henry S. Haines, Richard F. Mott, and Caleb G. Ridgway. Mr. Haines was the first Secretary of the Department and Superintendent of the works.

Vast changes have followed in the succeeding years. The unsightly buildings, which housed the old boiler and engine and crude reservoirs, have been replaced with an attractive structure; new mains of ample diameter have been laid through all of the streets of the city; a stand-pipe reservoir has been erected; the pumping capacity increased from time to time; and in 1897 the present modern filtering station was added to the plant.

The equipment in 1927 included a duplicate pumping service, a steam centrifugal, and an electrical centrifugal pump for lifting water from the river to the coagulating basins, where vegetable and other foreign matter is precipitated. The filtered water then runs by gravity to the clear wells from which it is raised to the stand-pipe reservoir. Duplicate pumps, an electric and a Holly steam pump, are provided for this service.

The stand-pipe stores two hundred and ninety thousand gallons, the pumping capacity is fourteen thousand gallons per minute, and supplies three million gallons of pure, clean and wholesome water through twenty miles of water mains to three thousand takers of water in Burlington every twenty-four hours.

George A. Allinson, who managed the department as its Superintendent for half a century, resigned January 1,

1927. He was succeeded by Nathaniel G. Johnson. The Water Board in 1927 is Benjamin A. Sleeper, John S. Conroy, Selden R. Probasco, Frank J. Cutter and W. Gilbert Irons.

THE BURLINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT, in the number of its units, the value of its equipment, and the character of its personale, ranks high for a city of Burlington's population and means. An ample supply of water supplements the provision for fire extinguishment. One hundred and sixty-nine fire hydrants are distributed throughout the city. From the Delaware River and Assiscunk Creek, flowing around the thickly populated areas, water can be pumped directly by the fire engines. An electric fire alarm system and a well equipped salvage corps are important adjuncts of the department.

Burlington had organized firemen as early as the year 1700. As at present constituted the Burlington Fire Department was organized in January 1877. The department then had but four companies, the Endeavor, the Hope, the Young America and the Mitchell. Two others, the Neptune and Niagara, have been added since.

The active membership of the companies is limited to those who actually perform fire duty. None but trained men can aspire to or reach posts of authority or control. Foremen and Assistant Engineers, who through progression in office finally reach the office of Chief Engineer, are chosen only from this class of membership. The office of Chief Engineer passes automatically in rotation among the several companies in the order of the seniority of their organization.

When the term of a Chief expires the Assistant Engineer of the company next in seniority becomes the Chief, and his company immediately chooses from its active ranks another who takes his place in the line of succession.

This plan frustrates favoritism and political influence in the choice of a chief, guarantees equal opportunity for advancement to those who qualify themselves for it, inspires faithful service, and elevates the spirit of the corps. The first chief under the organized department, William M. Jeffries, a former active volunteer fireman of Philadelphia, who had made a close study of fire fighting methods, must ever be honored as the "Father" of the Burlington Fire Department.

The earliest reference to Burlington firemen is found in a fragmentary record that an organization known as the "Fellowship" was permitted by the Friends Meeting to erect a small fire house on the Wood Street front of the Friends burial ground. This is probably the building alluded to later as the first fire house of the Endeavor Fire Company.

Some time later, in 1742, action was taken by the town meeting to provide protection against ravages by fire. On March 8th of that year it was agreed, "that Samuel Scatergood be appointed and ordered to provide a couple of good substantial ladders, such to be forty feet long, for the use of the city in case of fire, and that one be lodged in the upper market stalls and the other in the lower market stalls." Primitive bucket companies were formed, among them the Rose and the Union. The Rose added axes to their equipment. These were followed by companies with small hand engines known as the "Washington," the "Fulton" and the "City."

ENDEAVOR FIRE CO. NO. 1, the first permanent fire organization in Burlington, and the oldest fire company in the state continuing under its original name, was organized by the surviving members of those early companies in 1795, with the following members: Samuel Rogers, Thomas Smith, John Hoskins, Jr., William Allinson, Daniel Smith, Jr., Abel Pitman, Amos Hutchin, William Griffith, Samuel



Totten, John Griscom, Daniel C. Cowpland, Elijah Condon, William Smith, Matthew Rockhill, H. W. Atkinson, John Craft, Henry Brown, Jr., Joseph McIlvaine, Joseph Smith, Jr., Thomas Hancock, William Ridgway, Caleb Engle, Caleb Costill, Joseph Burr, Robert Cox, Caleb Gaskill, Joseph Costill, Uriah Costill, J. M. Burrows, William Cosume.

The first meetings of the company were held in the Friends' school house on York Street. The following officers were elected on May 17th, 1795: John Hoskins, Jr., President; Daniel Smith, Jr., Treasurer; Robert Smith, Jr., Secretary. Each member paid a fee of one dollar when he joined the company, and provided himself with a leather bucket on which his name was painted, and which he kept at his home ready for instant use. Each bucket cost eight dollars. An inspector made frequent visits to the homes of the members and inspected the buckets. A fine of six cents was imposed when the buckets were not found in good shape. Ladders were purchased later.

Previous to the organization of the Endeavor Company fire wardens, appointed by the town meeting, had taken charge of all dangerous fires. Now they came into conflict with the members of the Endeavor and unpleasant altercations were features of every fire until the town meeting ended the trouble by discharging the fire wardens whose services had become unnecessary.

The first permanent fire house of the Endeavor was built in 1798, by John Griscom, in front of the Friends property on High Street. In 1838 a fire house was built on the Wood Street front of the same property and another some years after on the West Broad Street front, which was occupied until the Market House on East Union Street was turned over to the Endeavor Company by the city.

The company met in the Friends school house until 1801

without charge for rent. After that date it met in the home of Samuel Stockton until 1846, when Mr. Stockton, who had been secretary of the company for fifty years, removed to Philadelphia. The meetings were then held in the office of Franklin Woolman, until the acquisition of their present home in 1874.

In 1816 one hundred feet of hose was purchased. Hosemen were then appointed to take charge of it during a fire and were fined fifty cents for dereliction of duty. Fire helmets had been the only semblance of uniform worn until about this time, when forty yards of linen was ordered to make frocks for the hosemen. Their first fire engine was built for them by Samuel Briggs, of Philadelphia, with whom they contracted for "one of his third rate engines." The price was one hundred and fifty pounds and the money was raised by subscription.

In 1871 the bell that had been located at the railroad depot to announce arriving trains was presented to the Endeavor Company by Captain Charles S. Gauntt, of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. It was placed on top of the West Broad Street Fire house and after 1874 was loaned to the Hope Fire Company. When it became cracked it was returned to the Endeavor Company and remained an honored relic in the company's house for a long time.

The present bell in the tower of the town clock was originally purchased by the Presbyterians for use in the belfry of their church, but the congregation thought its tone was not that of "the church-going bell," and it was purchased by the Endeavor.

The company became interested in the efficiency of chemical fire engines for incipient fires, and on March 9, 1874 purchased a Babcock chemical engine at a cost of twenty-five hundred dollars. They have continued to use this type

of equipment, and have replaced one chemical engine by another, each an improvement on the other. Their present engine is a two-tank chemical and hose truck. They have also in service a two-tank, fifty gallon, Jeffrey chemical auto truck and a Buick hose car.

William M. Jeffries, the first chief of the organized fire department, was for many years President of the Endeavor. Other members of this company who have served as chiefs of the department were Frank Lippincott, Charles Stowell, George W. Slack, David A. Brotherton, James Edward Thorne. The present officers of the Endeavor are President, David A. Brotherton; Vice President, George Power; Secretary, Joseph Stowell; Treasurer, Elmer C. Doolin; Foreman, Edward G. Davis; Assistant Foreman, Raymond Cliver; Steward, Howard Estilow.

THE HOPE STEAM FIRE ENGINE COMPANY, No. 1, originally the "Washington and Hope Hose Co.," was organized in 1849 by four members of the old Washington Engine Co.:—Elwood Conner, Franklin Gauntt, Joseph Butcher and Elias G. Wright. They were joined by seven others who favored the continuance of a fire company: Charles C. Myers, Anthony Smith, Charles L. Shepherd, James Martin, John P. Fireng, William S. Howe and William C. Fenimore.

This company had its first engine house at York and East Union Streets, the old cocoonery building abandoned in the early forties on the subsidence of the silkworm culture speculation. The equipment was the "old city engine" built by Patrick Lyons, of Philadelphia. They also had an old hose carriage previously owned by the Hope Hose Company of Philadelphia, the first spring carriage built in that city.

When the lot on which the engine house stood was sold to the Union M. E. Church the company failed to get an-

other and the "Washington and Hope Hose Company" gave up its equipment to the city and disbanded. The company was reorganized on August 12, 1850 as the "Hope Hose Company." In June 1869, the Hope consolidated with the "Fulton." This was one of the old companies organized many years before and occupied a building on Penn Street. The Hope then became the "Hope Fire Company" and built the fire house on High Street north of Pearl Street. Two years later an Amoskeag steamer, the first steam fire engine acquired by the Burlington Fire Department, was purchased from the Hope Hose and Steam Fire Engine Company, of Philadelphia, and in 1872, by act of the Legislature, the name of the company was changed to the "Hope Steam Fire Engine Company."

The present equipment includes a triple combination, bought in 1924 from the American La France Company. This car combines a piston pump engine, having a capacity of nine hundred gallons per minute, with a forty gallon chemical tank, and a hose truck carrying twelve hundred feet of two and a half inch hose and two hundred feet of one inch hose. The fire house has been remodeled within and without and provided with a sixteen foot entrance (double doors, each eight feet wide) permitting two pieces of apparatus to pass out or in at one time, abreast of each other.

THE YOUNG AMERICA FIRE CO., No. 3 was formed August 4, 1869, by the consolidation of the Franklin Engine Company, organized in 1852, whose house was located at the corner of York Street and Jones Avenue, and the Young America Hook and Ladder Company, organized in 1857, whose house stood on East Pearl Street, near High Street. The first fire truck of the Hook and Ladder Company was built in Burlington by Thaddeus Woolston, in the shop at



the southwest corner of Broad and Library Streets, afterwards occupied by James H. Birch as a carriage repair shop.

The first officers chosen after the consolidation were: John G. Burling, President; E. F. Perkins, Vice-President; William H. Antrim, Secretary. The first equipment of the company was a truck, an old hand engine and a hose carriage. In 1870 the present fire house was built, and a hose carriage was bought from the Fairmount Fire Company, of Philadelphia. A hand truck purchased in 1872 was replaced in 1896 by a 45-foot aerial extension truck built by the Gleason & Bailey Company for \$2010. Since then it has been motorized at a cost of seven thousand dollars. The hose wagon was purchased from the Auto Car Company of Philadelphia in 1914, and nineteen hundred dollars was paid for it.

The fire bell on the house, purchased in 1879, is the same bell that hung in the belfry of St. Anns Church, Brooklyn, more than a century and a half ago and gave warning that the British war fleet was coming up New York Harbor.

MITCHELL STEAM FIRE ENGINE COMPANY NO. 4, organized July 17, 1874, was named in honor of John Mitchell, a descendant of early settlers of Burlington, who donated the lot upon which the company erected its fire house, at the corner of East Federal Street and Lawrence Street.

The Federal Street fire fighters were at first unorganized. They believed they needed better fire protection than the city furnished and gladly accepted the gift of a discarded hose carriage from the Young America Company. They housed this piece of apparatus in Ben Schuyler's old blacksmith shop. A disastrous fire at the corner of Federal and Lawrence Streets stirred them to definite action. A meeting was held in Thomas Stokley's shoe factory, attended by ten men. These officers were chosen: President, David B.

Van Slyke, then a well-known physician in Burlington; Vice-Presidents, L. M. Abdill and Joseph P. Abdill; Secretary, Joseph F. Mount; Treasurer, Thomas Stokley; Foreman and Engineer, William S. Nixon. The other five men present were William R. Schuyler, William Rambo, C. R. Prickett, Robert Sampson, Robert McConnell.

The old Franklin hand pump engine was secured by the new company and installed in the new house which was built in 1875 at a cost of five thousand dollars. A La France steamer was purchased later at a cost of thirty-five hundred dollars. This was followed some time later by the acquisition of a four wheel hose carriage carrying six hundred feet of hose, and the fire fighting shoemakers of East Federal Street became an important factor when the Burlington Fire Department was organized in 1877.

NEPTUNE HOSE COMPANY No. 5 grew out of a plan of Andrew H. McNeal, the East Burlington ironmaster, to build a fire station and equip it with modern fire fighting apparatus; and at the same time provide a club house where the men of that section of the city might gather socially. Ground was donated by Mr. McNeal for the site of the building but he died before his purposes could be carried out. Employes of the McNeal foundries and other East Burlington men procured a two-wheeled jumper carrying a line of well-worn hose in an effort to provide some protection from fire. I. Snowden Haines, for many years Mr. McNeal's confidential associate, took the situation in hand and the "Frog-town Fire Fighters," as they were called, became a well ordered organization, and were incorporated in 1907 under the title, "Neptune Hose Company." Some time later they became a unit of the Burlington Fire Department and were admitted as number five. The company's first temporary building was replaced in 1922 by the present fire station in which is housed motor-driven fire apparatus

of modern type. The officers of the company are, J. J. Adams, President; Edmund Rhoda, Secretary.

NIAGARA HOSE COMPANY NO. 6 had its genesis when Common Council, some time prior to 1910, placed a hose jumper in the Gas House yard on South High Street for the use of a number of young men of the neighborhood who enjoyed the soubriquet of "Sprinklers, No. 6." Two years later a company was formally organized, and on October 15, 1913 was incorporated as the "Niagara Hose Company."

I. Snowden Haines became the patron of the company, giving them a plot of ground at High and Dewey Streets as a site for a fire house, and the materials for its construction from a concrete building on West Broad Street, which was demolished at that time. The fire house, a one-story building, was completed in February, 1914, and on the 12th of that month the Gas House jumper was housed in it. The membership increased rapidly. In November, 1916, a second story was added to the building and a three-quarter ton Jeffrey, motor-driven, hose wagon was installed. The World War halted the progress of the young company. Eighteen of its forty members were called to arms. The siren alarm, a throw-down electric-driven affair, was placed on the house in 1919.

INDEPENDENT FIRE COMPANY NO. 1, of Springside, the township's first fire fighting organization, was formed on May 6, 1914, by Charles E. Buckley, Edgar Lippincott, Bert Buckley, Edward Dickerson, Lloyd Warren, Harry Roberts, Sr., Chester Buckley, Simpson Cousart, John Smith, John Oliver, Dudley Dickerson and Ridgway Regars. The lot at the corner of Rancocas Road and Chapel Street was purchased and the members made concrete blocks in their cellars for the erection of the Fire House.

The company was incorporated September 5, 1915, and

the fire house was completed in March 1916. Their first piece of apparatus was loaned to them by the Endeavor Fire Company. In 1916 a Marmon chassis was purchased and equipped with a chemical truck. In March 1921 a Ford chassis was purchased and mounted with two thirty-five gallon chemical tanks.

THE BEVERLY ROAD FIRE COMPANY is the township's second fire fighting unit. It was organized in 1925 by William A. Slack, Augustus Scully, Everett Gray, John Herring, Harry Borton and B. W. Sholl. An attractive fire house, stuccoed exteriorly and conveniently arranged within, was constructed the following year. In August, 1927, a contract was made with the American La France Company for a six thousand dollar four tank chemical truck, the first piece of fire apparatus of this particular type to be acquired by any fire company in America. The officers of the company in 1927 are President, William A. Slack; Secretary, John Herring; Treasurer, E. K. Marter; Foreman, Carl Murphy.

THE FIREMEN'S RELIEF ASSOCIATION, of Burlington, participating in the benefits of the Firemen's Relief Fund of New Jersey, was organized at a meeting held in the office of Franklin Woolman on the evening of May 16, 1879. The first officers of the Association were William M. Jeffries, President; William A. Stineruck, Vice-President; George A. Allinson, Secretary; Franklin Woolman, Treasurer. The organization is composed of a Board of Representatives and a Board of Visitors whose members are chosen from the six fire companies of the Burlington Fire Department. The present officers (in 1927) are President, Harold T. Blinn; Vice-President, Francis J. Watchorn; Secretary, Edward K. Dickerson; Treasurer, Fred W. Woolman.

The Chief of the Fire Department is John Tyler. The Assistant Chiefs are: Howard Whittick, First Assistant;



David Brotherton, Second Assistant; Michael Watchorn, Third Assistant; Ferdinand D. Rose, Fourth Assistant; Clarence Vernon, Fifth Assistant; Ralph W. McKinley, Sixth Assistant.

THE BURLINGTON SEWERAGE DEPARTMENT came into existence when the city purchased the plant of the Burlington Sewerage Company in 1921. This plant was installed in 1901 by a private company, headed by S. W. Kent, of Lansdowne, Pa., with John W. Davis, Charles Y. Flanders and others, in connection with the American Pipe and Construction Company.

There was no municipal regulation at that time compelling sewer connection and although the company established the low minimum of six dollars per annum, based upon the water fixtures in use at the time, and offered liberal inducements to those making connections, the income failed to meet the cost of running the plant.

In 1908 the American Pipe and Construction Company took the plant over to satisfy their claim against the Burlington Sewerage Company, and Mr. A. C. Ubill was made Superintendent. At this time there were but eight hundred connections in the city and the new owners found themselves maintaining the service at a loss. They went before the Public Utility Commission in 1918 with their complaint and were allowed to increase the rate to ten dollars per annum.

Three years later the city took over the plant. In 1922 Council passed an ordinance compelling all properties abutting on the sewer lines to make connection. In 1924 the sewer system was extended to East Burlington. There are now (in 1927) twenty-one hundred connections. Mr. A. C. Ubill continues as Superintendent.

COMPANY K, 114TH REGIMENT, N. J. N. G., is the successor of a line of military organizations in Burlington

that had its beginning nearly a century and a half ago. The earliest record found refers to the year 1799 when there was a company of citizen soldiers in Burlington commanded by Joseph McIlvaine. Their dress was blue coats and yellow nankeen pantaloons. In 1820 Captain James Haines organized a company called the Burlington Volunteers. There were also the Burlington Guards and the Burlington Grays.

About the time of the Mexican War a company called the New Jersey Guards was organized. It was commanded by Captain Jones, First Lieutenant Joseph Hays, Second Lieutenant Samuel Garwood, and held its first parade July 4, 1846. Captain Jones soon resigned and his successor, William H. Hays, died suddenly while on his wedding tour. The government called on the Guards. They did not respond as a company but a number of them enlisted under Captain Wallace Collet and saw service in Mexico. The next company formed was the Marion Rifles, in 1855, commanded by Captain Hamilton McDowell. It ceased to exist when its members enlisted in the Civil War under Captain George C. Burling.

Upon the close of the Civil War the New Jersey National Guard was organized, and in 1866 the Burlington unit was enlisted and assigned to the Third Regiment as Co. F, with Joseph E. Taylor, Captain; John W. Goodenough, First Lieutenant; Charles S. Prosser, Second Lieutenant. John W. Goodenough succeeded to the command of the company and was followed by Captain Jonathan Maguire who resigned in 1876, when Captain Samuel Phillips assumed command.

In the meantime there had been a reorganization of the National Guard and the Burlington unit became Co. A of the Sixth Regiment. The company served in the railroad riots of 1877, with headquarters at Phillipsburg, N. J.

Captain Phillips resigned and Captain John Shinn commanded Co. A until he was made Colonel of the Sixth Regiment, when Lieutenant T. D. Landon was made Captain.

The company enlisted in the Spanish-American War. Captain Landon was promoted Major and Lieutenant J. Frank Clime became Captain, serving with the company until the close of the war. Upon the reorganization of the company immediately after the war Captain Landon resumed command for a short period until early in 1900 when Edward B. Stone became Captain and served until his resignation in 1909, when Dr. J. Edward Blair was elected Captain and continued in command until the company was disbanded in 1910.

From that time until Captain Stone raised a company for the World War in 1917, Burlington was without a military organization. After Co. M returned from France and was demobilized at Camp Dix in June 1919, Captain Stone organized the present company, "K", and was made its Captain in 1920. He served for a short period until promoted Lieutenant Colonel of the present 114th regiment of which he is now Colonel Commanding.

Ernest H. Bennett was elected Captain of Co. K upon Captain Stone's advancement; in 1921 William H. Absalom followed and served until 1924, when the present Captain, Harry R. Severs, was elected. The other commissioned officers are First Lieutenant, P. E. Sholl; Second Lieutenant, Fred W. Shober. The fine armory building at High and Belmont Streets was erected in 1926-27.

BURLINGTON LODGE NO. 22, I. O. O. F. was instituted October 27th, 1843 with these charter members and first officers: Noble Grand, Amor W. Archer; Vice Grand, Joseph L. Powell; Secretary, William H. Hays; Assistant Secretary, William B. Worrell; Treasurer, Franklin Wool-

man. The old cocoonery building at the northwest corner of York and Union Streets was purchased and the second floor was arranged for a lodge room. The first class of initiates was composed of Daniel I. Lukens, David D. Mitchell, Samuel Fort, Wardrop I. Hall, Horatio N. Bostwick, Robert Smith, Henry Grime, Isaac T. Smith, John G. Copeland, John Larzalere, Joseph Havens, Samuel Ward, David Harmer, Isaac A. Shreve, William Miller, Samuel Sapp, Lewis C. Leeds.

The present lodge building on East Union Street was erected in 1846, and in 1853 the building and lot at York and Union Streets was sold to Union M. E. Church. In 1888 Burlington Lodge acquired the Parks estate and converted it into a cemetery. The entrance lodge and chapel were erected in 1917, and the cemetery grounds were extended in 1927 by the purchase of the adjoining Rittenhouse property.

The assets of Burlington Lodge at this writing are \$64,000, with a membership of 264. During the 84 years of its history the lodge has never failed of a quorum on a meeting night, a fact of which the members are proud. The present officers (in 1927) are Noble Grand, W. Kenneth Shinn; Vice Grand, William M. R. Brown; Recording Secretary, J. Howard Whomsley; Financial Secretary, William H. Stockton; Treasurer, John I. Parker; Board of Trustees, William W. Lippincott, George W. Shinn, Theodore F. Ellis, John I. Parker, James Lewis.

PHOENIX LODGE No. 92, I. O. O. F., was instituted March 12, 1849 with seven charter members. They were: John Rodgers, Elwood Conner, George Dugdale, David P. Lukens, David D. Mitchell, Joseph Butcher, Jacob Mitchell.

BURLINGTON LODGE No. 32, F. & A. M., was instituted June 21, 1854, with the following members: Judge E. E.



Boudinot, John W. Kelley, Thomas Neall, William R. Allen, Lewis Gotta, Elwood Conner, Richard B. Westbrook, Aaron E. Ballard and John Rodgers. For many years the communications of No. 32 were held in Odd Fellows' lodge room on East Union Street. In June 1897 the old Stockton homestead on West Union Street was acquired by the Masonic Hall Association from the estate of Caleb G. Ridgway. The dwelling was enlarged to twice its original size and remodeled to suit the needs of the lodge. The first communication in the new Masonic Hall was in December of the same year. Burlington Lodge has been honored by having two of its members raised to distinction, Henry S. Haines as Grand Instructor, and Cooper H. Prickitt as Grand Master of Masons, for the Jurisdiction of New Jersey. The officers of No. 32 in 1927 are: Worshipful Master, Samuel R. Probasco; Senior Warden, Olin M. Slack; Junior Warden, Edward M. Simons; Chaplain, F. Ross Jones, P. M.; Treasurer, W. Edward Ridgway, P. M.; Secretary, William E. Taylor, P. M.; Senior Deacon, Charlton McCormick; Junior Deacon, G. Percy Benckert; Senior Master of Ceremonies, Robert R. Taylor; Junior Master of Ceremonies, Walter L. Sharp; Senior Steward, Blair W. Tyler; Junior Steward, Guy W. Meade; Marshal, R. W. Stokes E. Sharp, P. M.

BOUDINOT CHAPTER No. 3, R. A. M., was instituted in February 1856 with these charter members and officers: Elwood Conner, H.P.; W. W. Goodwin, K.; Seth Thomas, S.; H. McDowell, Treasurer; John F. Kelley, Secretary.

HELENA COMMANDERY No. 3, K. T., was instituted January 27, 1860, under a charter granted by B. R. French, Grand Master of the United States to Theophilis Fisk, Charles G. Milnor, and W. W. Goodwin.

LENNI LENAPE TRIBE No. 12, I. O. R. M., was instituted January 18, 1858, with these charter members: Hugh

Armstrong, William S. Coleman, Alfred Inglin, William Limeburner, Isaac R. Perkins, Robert T. Willits, Charles Willits, Dr. John D. Moore, David D. Mitchell, Thomas B. Sherman, Joseph Marlin, James Willits, Lewis T. Price, Richard B. Wilmot.

HOPE LODGE NO. 13, K. OF P., was instituted by the Supreme Chancellor of the World, Samuel Reed, of Mount Holly, July 6, 1868, with these charter members and officers: George Wells, C. C.; Frank H. Fry, V. C.; Sheldon S. Davis, K. of R. & S.; John R. Dubell, Treas.; John F. Pew, Griffith W. Lewis, Harry A. Steel, Harry K. Stevenson, William Conard and Lewis Gotta.

LOYAL ORDER OF MOOSE NO. 965 was instituted March 26, 1915. Five years later they purchased the historical Kinsey property at the southeast corner of Broad and Wood Streets and fitted it up for a fraternal home. This order has been identified with many charitable movements in Burlington. The officers in 1927 are: Dictator, George Power; Secretary, David A. Brotherton; Treasurer, Walter E. Gordon.

EVENING STAR COUNCIL NO. 38, JUNIOR ORDER OF UNITED AMERICAN MECHANICS, was organized on March 26, 1873, with fifteen charter members, five of whom are living at this writing. The records of the meetings held during the first six months have been lost and the names of the first officers have passed out of memory.

Evening Star Council is one of the strongest fraternal organizations in Burlington. In 1927 the membership is five hundred and twelve, with four honorary members; the assets are fifty-five thousand dollars; and the average annual expenditure for sick benefits is forty-four hundred dollars. The Council pays a benefit of three hundred dollars upon the death of a member. The officers, in 1927, are: Councillor, Francis Fenimore; Vice Councillor, William M.

Leeds; Junior Past Councillor, Edwin B. Taylor; Recording Secretary, J. Harold Price; Assistant Recording Secretary, William B. Smith; Financial Secretary, Rowland D. Woolman; Treasurer, Thomas Coburn; Conductor, Francis S. Shinn; Warden, William Cowan; Inside Sentinel, Kenneth Shinn; Outside Sentinel, Walter H. Smith; Chaplain, Harry D. Clair; Trustees, John I. Parker, John T. Durell, J. Harry Conover.

BURLINGTON LODGE No. 996, P. B. O. ELKS, was instituted by Camden Lodge on September 27, 1905. The ceremony took place in the Auditorium Theatre. It was preceded by a parade and followed by a feast, and was a big event in Elkdom. Leon W. Estilow is the father of Burlington Lodge and became its first Exalted Ruler. When he conceived the idea of organizing a lodge of Elks in Burlington he was a member of Camden Lodge and was one of Burlington's first two Elks. The other was Howard Story, who has removed to Asbury Park.

The first officers were Exalted Ruler, Leon W. Estilow; Esteemed Leading Knight, Walter S. Marter; Esteemed Loyal Knight, Henry Walter; Esteemed Lecturing Knight, Charles Stokes; Secretary, J. Frank Clime; Treasurer, Frank L. Johnson; Esquire, William H. Bodine; Inside Guard, John H. Naylor; Chaplain, George Whomsley; Tiler, Louis Russi.

The first meetings of the lodge were held in the Auditorium Hall; then a room in the building of Hope Fire Company was rented; and later on Grange Hall. The first Elks Home was the property now occupied by Rev. Andrew Szostakowski, rector of All Saints Church, which was leased until the present Elks Home was purchased and made to serve immediate needs. Some few years ago the home was entirely remodeled to include a lodge room, billiard room, library and every needed club convenience. A fine tennis

court, electrically lighted, has been laid out in the rear of the home, and important contests take place there.

Burlington Lodge has been honored by the Grand Lodge by the appointment of Walter S. Marter and Thomas S. Mooney as district deputies. Brother Mooney became one of the most distinguished Elks in the state when, after serving as Vice President, he became President of the New Jersey State Elks Association in 1926. Burlington Lodge was launched by men with high ideals and has always stood for the things that make for mutual helpfulness and community welfare.

VICTOR EMANUEL LODGE No. 239, SONS OF ITALY, was organized on May 12, 1914, through the efforts of Matthew Antuzzi. The purpose of the Sons of Italy is the Americanization of Italian emigrants and to protect them from unfair treatment. An Italian must become naturalized before he can qualify for membership. When Parker Grubb Post No. 16, G. A. R., disbanded, the Sons of Italy purchased the post hall on Lawrence Street. The lodge has a membership of nearly three hundred.

THE LAKANOO BOAT CLUB holds a prominent place among racing and cruising organizations of the Delaware valley. It had its inception when a small group of men, interested in boating, fishing and river sports, met at the residence of Hobart D. Hewitt in June 1898, and formed the Delaware River Boat Club. The name was changed to the present euphonious title soon after. The first officers were: Commodore, Hobart D. Hewitt; Secretary, Henry B. Fort; Treasurer, Dr. Sterling Hewitt.

The property on East Pearl Street, originally occupied by Abner Durell, famous for half a century as a builder of crack yachts and skiffs, was leased for club headquarters from William Cooper, who conducted a "Boats to Hire" business there. The club prospered, numerically and finan-



cially; the leased property was purchased; and in 1905 the present well appointed, modern type club house was erected.

Lakanoo men from the earliest days of the organization have been competitors for racing honors. Their first victories were gained at the International Sportsmen's Show, at Philadelphia, in 1902. The Lakanoo colors were carried to victory in the regattas of the Associated Canoe Clubs of the Delaware in 1910, and were successfully defended against all competition during the years 1911, 1912 and 1913. The World War halted river racing for a time. With the revival of river sports in the twenties the Lakanoo men were again found in the forefront. The present officers are: Commodore, James B. Gallagher; Vice Commodore, John McAdams; Secretary, Franklin Gauntt; Treasurer, Calvin Mathis; Quartermaster, Charles E. Haines.

THE BURLINGTON COUNTY HOME FOR AGED WOMEN was organized in 1896 by a little group of thoughtful women who visioned the need of a non-sectarian institution where homeless old women might spend their last days in comfort, free from care.

A first organization was formed May 27, 1896, with Mrs. Anna Phares, President, and Mrs. Edith Anna Churchman, Treasurer. The Isaac Collins house at the northeast corner of York and Broad Streets was rented and on June 18th the doors were opened to receive donations. The organization was completed by electing Mrs. Anna Phares, President; Mrs. Mary A. Wright, Vice-President; Mrs. Sarah M. Curl, Recording Secretary; Mrs. Henry S. Haines, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. Rebecca Shinn, Treasurer.

The Home was formally opened with appropriate ceremonies on Thursday, October 8, 1896. There were five inmates, with Miss Rebecca Beugless in charge as Matron. In May 1898 a property was purchased on East Union

Street, near St. Mary Street, for five thousand dollars. Of this sum one thousand dollars was received from the admission fees of the first inmates and one thousand dollars from the estate of Sarah Smith, of Burlington. A mortgage of three thousand dollars was placed with the Provident Trust Company, of Philadelphia.

A gift of five hundred dollars from Mr. John Davis, of Riverton, in memory of his wife, once a member of the Board of Managers, three hundred dollars from the estate of Mrs. Helen M. Sharp, with an appropriation from the Board of Freeholders, and other savings, reduced the mortgage to five hundred dollars. In April 1906 the Home received one thousand dollars from the estate of Joseph E. Taylor. Five hundred dollars of this was used to cancel the indebtedness on the Home. It was a joyful event when the Board of Managers formally burned the mortgage on May 31, 1906.

Applications from worthy women began to increase beyond the capacity of the Home to receive them. When the Board began looking for a larger building the trustees of the Burlington Preparative Meeting School Fund, with great liberality, offered the property at Union and York Streets, valued at ten thousand dollars, to the Board for eight thousand dollars. The building was remodeled, under the generous supervision of George W. Hewitt and William D. Hewitt, at a cost of six thousand four hundred and thirty-five dollars.

On February 22, 1915, the doors of the new Home were opened for public inspection, and on March 8, the family moved in. By the sale of the former Home to St. Pauls R. C. Parish and numerous donations and legacies the present Home has been freed from debt, and a nucleus has been created for the endowment of this worthy charity. At this writing twenty-three inmates are being cared for. The pres-

ent officers are, President, Mrs. Ella W. Eastwood; Vice-President, Mrs. E. C. Steinsieck; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Sarah M. Curl; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. D. P. Oliver; Treasurer, Mrs. C. M. Beugless.

ANNIS STOCKTON CHAPTER, DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, was organized at Riverton in 1907 with sixteen charter members. The membership grew with additions from Burlington, Riverton, Mount Holly, Beverly and Palmyra. In January 1913 the quaint brick building No. 9 East Pearl Street was purchased for a chapter house. This building, the oldest erected of the houses still standing in Burlington, was chosen because of its associations with the history of the city. It was erected in 1685 and was occupied by Thomas Revel, Registrar of the province in its earliest days. The house is hallowed also by a tradition of Benjamin Franklin's relationship with Burlington, as the residence of the kind old woman who sold him gingerbread, and gave him a good dinner, when as a young man he was detained in Burlington on his way to Philadelphia.

The Chapter restored and renovated the building and on November 1, 1913, it was dedicated with fitting ceremonies held in old St. Marys Church in the morning and the Presbyterian Church in the afternoon. The officers at that time were Mrs. H. N. M. Pancoast, Riverton, N. J., Regent; Mrs. Richard Holman, Mount Holly, Vice Regent; Mrs. Frank Blackburn, Palmyra, Secretary; Miss Bessie Warnick, Treasurer. The present officers of the Chapter are Ex-Regent, Mrs. David G. Baird, Beverly, N. J.; Regent, Mrs. Joseph M. Roberts, Riverton, N. J.; 1st Vice Regent, Mrs. Budd Shedaker, Burlington, N. J.; 2nd Vice Regent, Mrs. Mary C. Rue, Burlington, N. J.; Secretary, Mrs. George Du Bell, Palmyra, N. J.; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. William Branson, Palmyra, N. J.; Treas-

urer, Mrs. Lloyd Unland, Riverton, N. J.; Chaplain, Mrs. William T. Baggs, Beverly, N. J.; Historian, Mrs. T. Sherman Borden, Beverly, N. J.; Registrar, Mrs. Ida Cook, Mount Holly, N. J.

The Chapter commemorates the name of Annis Boudinot, the sister of Elias Boudinot, who married Richard Stockton, one of the five men from New Jersey to sign the Declaration of Independence. Because of his prominence in the Revolution Richard Stockton's capture was greatly desired by the Royalists. He was forced, for this reason, to leave his home and wife in Princeton. He was finally captured and kept prisoner during the war without a word from his wife from whom he had been so rudely parted.

These misfortunes only heightened Annis Stockton's zeal for the Patriot cause. She served with Lady Stirling, Mrs. Patterson and others on a committee formed to aid the Continental army. One of the traditions of the battle of Princeton relates a heroic act which illustrates her spirit and courage. Some important dispatches and valuable papers vital to the Patriot cause were filed in Whig Hall, one of the college buildings. Annis Stockton knew where they were kept and what would happen if they fell into the enemy's hands.

The British Army was approaching Whig Hall. She ran to the building, secured the papers, eluded the Hessians, ran back to her home and buried the precious documents under a tree; a performance as thrilling and as serviceable to her country as Dolly Madison's act in saving the Declaration of Independence from the British in the War of 1812. After the death of Richard Stockton in 1781, Annis Stockton devoted herself to literature, for which she was highly gifted. Her numerous odes and poems entitle her to a place among the foremost literary lights of the Revolution.



THE CIVIC LEAGUE of Burlington is an organization of public spirited women "to promote the welfare of the citizens of Burlington by beautifying the town and increasing its advantages and conveniences, and to promote, by united effort, the improvement of civic and social conditions."

A meeting to consider this worthy purpose was held November 26, 1912, at the home of Mrs. Howard E. Packer. Miss Anne M. Taylor, Miss Margaret S. Haines and Mrs. Cooper H. Prickitt were appointed a committee to take steps for the organization of the Civic League of Burlington women. A general call was issued and on February 6, 1913, the League was organized at a meeting held in the Council chamber. Sixty members were enrolled. The first officers were: President, Miss Margaret S. Haines; Vice President, Miss Anne M. Taylor; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Howard Eastwood; Corresponding Secretary, Miss Florence Eyre; Treasurer, Miss Emma V. Torr.

The old brick school building at York and Penn Streets is the club house of the League. The spirit of the organization is fine and much has been accomplished. Unsightly lots have been beautified, improper building conditions corrected, a public Christmas tree and celebration has become an annual event. A baby clinic with a nurse in charge was established through the initiative of the League in 1922. It was sustained by the State Board of Child Welfare for three years as an object lesson to Burlington. When Council refused to make an appropriation for its continuance the local welfare station was closed. The League brought about the placing of street names at the corners of the city streets, and has coöperated in many ways with the city authorities in public betterments. A mosquito campaign sponsored for several seasons by the League is an outstanding undertaking and satisfying results have followed it.

THE BURLINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY was founded by Mrs. Mary McKeen, of Moorestown, President of the Women's Branch of the New Jersey Historical Society, at a meeting called by her and held at her home May 13, 1915.

The object of the Society was declared to be to discover, study, procure and preserve history of all parts of the world, particularly of Burlington County. At a second meeting held at the same place these first officers of the Society were chosen: Mrs. Mary McKeen, Moorestown, Founder; Miss Margaret S. Haines, Burlington, Member at Large; Mrs. Francis B. Lee, Vincentown, President; Miss Helen R. Morris, Pemberton, Vice President; Mrs. Alban Spooner, Beverly, Secretary; Miss Laura Fenimore, Mount Holly, Treasurer; Miss Martha Hollingshead, Moorestown, Historian.

When the first meeting of the organized Society was held in the Surveyor General's office, on West Broad Street, Burlington, by permission of the Council of Proprietors, there were one hundred and fifty-eight charter members. The Society gained its first home in January 1916, when permission was given by the directors of the Burlington Library Company to use the second story of the Library building to hold meetings and house the gifts. This privilege was enjoyed until 1923 when the purchase of the James Fenimore Cooper birthplace provided a permanent home for the Society and made possible the preservation of an historical shrine. The Cooper house was dedicated in November, 1923. Judge Harold B. Wells and Prof. William Lyons Phelps made addresses upon that occasion.

At this time the name was changed and a charter granted to the Burlington County Historical Society. The seal adopted by the Society is a reproduction of the hexagonal meeting house, the first place of worship of the Burlington

Friends Meeting. The Society has secured an option for the purchase of the Captain James Lawrence birthplace, adjoining the Cooper house, when the present owners part with it.

Many pilgrimages have been made to places of historical interest, and special research committees have furnished valuable data upon the Kings Highway, samplers of Burlington County, agriculture, noted men, old mills, early schools, current history of Burlington County during the World War. The Society has also filed papers read at various meetings: *Romance of Old Silver*, *Life of Hannah Penn*, *Sesquicentennial*, *Reminiscences of Old Burlington Buildings*, *Old Inns*, *Marshal Foch*, *Hickory Grove*, *Stephen Grellet*, *Sketches of Mount Holly*, *National Soldiers Cemetery at Beverly*, *Joseph Bonaparte*, *Colonial Women of New Jersey in Revolutionary Period*, *Life and Character of Samuel Jennings*, *Life of John Woolman*. During the World War the Society assisted in relief work and many knitted articles were made for the battleship *New Jersey*.

The relatives of James Fenimore Cooper have been generous in giving furniture, pictures, books and silver. A fire-proof vault has been built and the Society is prepared to care for valuable papers and articles of historic value. Many interesting people have visited the house, which is open to visitors every Sunday. The guest book records the names of people from distant points covering all of the United States and including one from Alaska and one from India. The presidents of the Society have been: Mrs. Francis B. Lee, Vincentown; Mrs. Alice R. O. Paul, Mount Holly; Miss Rebekah B. Wills, Rancocas; Miss Alice C. D'Olier, Burlington; Mrs. Charles Allen, Riverton; Mrs. Murray C. Boyer, Riverton.

THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA. Burlington was among the first communities in America to adopt the Boy Scout movement. Soon after the organization was perfected in

this country, scattering patrols of boys were formed in this city. The actual organization of the movement in Burlington dates back to May 1911, when the first troop was formed and received its charter from national headquarters. The troop was organized by Carleton E. Sholl, Scoutmaster, and W. H. Zelley, Assistant Scoutmaster. This troop is still in existence and is the oldest troop in the State of New Jersey. Out of the membership of this troop, in the years following its organization, forty-two boys entered service in the World War.

A notable achievement of this troop was its call to service by the American Red Cross at the fiftieth anniversary celebration of the battle of Gettysburg. This honor was shared by two other troops; one from Washington, D. C., and the other from Baltimore, Maryland. As a matter of record the first Burlington troop was the first organization other than the American Red Cross, ever officially permitted to wear the Red Cross insignia.

As interest in boys' work in the city grew, other troops were organized. The movement was later fostered by a local Scout council, with George T. Williams as President and Carleton E. Sholl as Commissioner, which at one time had eight troops under its jurisdiction.

With the disbanding of the local council, under a new policy of the national organization, the Burlington movement came under the jurisdiction of a Scoutmasters' council with Carleton W. Tillinghast as commissioner and president. In 1925 the Burlington County First-Class Boy Scout Council was organized with John R. Tallis as County Commissioner. County headquarters are located in the Oliver building on High Street, Burlington. Harold M. Wall, of Beverly, is president, and associated with him are some of the county's most representative business and professional men. The Burlington local troops passed under the juris-



diction of the County Council, and five local troops are now functioning. The County Council has built up a strong organization in the various communities of the county and has more than one thousand active scouts enrolled. Its annual camp is conducted on an island in the Delaware River.

BURLINGTON COUNTY CHAPTER AMERICAN RED CROSS had its inception at a meeting called by Mrs. E. R. Mulford, at her residence in Burlington, in May 1916. A charter was granted by the national organization and at a meeting, held in the Civic League rooms, June 23, 1916, these officers were chosen: Mrs. E. R. Mulford, Chairman; Mrs. Olin M. Slack, Vice Chairman; Miss Helen Gunn, Secretary; Mrs. Elwood H. Russell, Treasurer. Twenty-one members were enrolled at this meeting. At the annual meeting of October 31, 1916, seventy-one members were reported and this number was increased to one hundred and seventy-eight by national transfers of members throughout the county to the Chapter roll.

On February 4, 1917, a nation-wide telegram from the American Red Cross urging enlarging of the committees and greater activity in the work of the Chapter was received. The Burlington Chapter was the second in the United States to act upon this request. The imminence of America's participation in the World War aroused public interest and Common Council granted the use of the City Hall for Red Cross headquarters. Branches throughout the county were organized in fourteen other towns.

The first war fund drive was oversubscribed, bringing \$60,556.66. The first Christmas membership drive realized \$10,829.16. Fifteen classes in first aid and two in Elementary Hygiene were graduated in 1917 under the supervision of the Education Committee. A School Committee was appointed to supervise the work of Junior Members. Twelve thousand and ninety-two Junior members and three

hundred and eight Senior members were enrolled. Their report shows three thousand five hundred and five dollars collected, two French babies supported by Burlington city schools, 790 hospital supplies, 261 knitted articles, 3 stretcher blankets, 450 afghan squares, 134 comfort kits, 10 hospital garments, 227 refugee garments, 33 rugs and 79 ear protectors.

The Packing and Shipping Committee did an enormous amount of work. They shipped to the Atlantic Division warerooms from November 1917 to May 1918 surgical dressings, 164,672; hospital garments, 8552; refugee garments, 5694; layettes, 136; comfort kits, 1832; hospital supplies, 8821. They also shipped to Camp Dix four emergency cot outfits, twenty-three sets of pajamas, thirty-four comfort kits, five knitted afghans, one box surgical dressings, fifty-four hospital supplies. After armistice was declared they shipped to the camp eighteen afghans, eighty property bags, forty-two thousand two hundred and ninety-six surgical dressings, ten comfort bags and one hundred trench caps.

At the present time there are ten branches in various towns in the county which work with the Chapter in supplying articles called for by the national organization in Washington. Each year quantities of hand-knitted sleeping caps and sweaters are sent to the disabled ex-service men in the government hospitals. Christmas bags are sent for the men in our foreign possessions. An emergency hospital was organized and outfitted in St. Marys Guild House under the Civilian Relief Committee in 1917, Burlington County Chapter coöperating with the Burlington Home Defense League in this work. The purpose of the hospital was to care for any persons injured while in the employ of institutions making munitions, or war materials, in or near Burlington. This hospital was called into service for patients

during the epidemic of influenza of October and November 1918. Many of the graduates of the Chapter's first aid classes acted as nurses during this epidemic. In the previous year, 1917, one hundred and eighty-six cases were aided by the Civilian Relief Committee under the Home Service Section.

The knitters of the Chapter furnished more than the quota of knitted articles required of them, and many drafted men from the county were furnished with all the knitted goods permitted for their overseas equipment. Before the base hospital was completed at Camp Dix the Chapter equipped the Field Hospital then in use with the first surgical dressings, hospital gowns, masks and all of the sterilized articles needed for the first major operation performed at the camp.

The drives for clothing for Belgians in the spring and fall of 1918 met with great success and the allotment for the Chapter was largely exceeded. The second war fund drive with an allotment of fifty thousand dollars amounted to eighty-five thousand three hundred ninety-nine dollars. In February 1918 the Junior activities had increased greatly and a School Committee was appointed to supervise the work of this branch. The Home Service stations were also busy. They rendered aid to more than four hundred soldiers' families. Twenty-four hundred dollars was thus expended in 1918.

Among the present day activities of the chapter an emergency closet, containing bedding and clothing for the needy is maintained and the Emergency Relief Committee assists civilian families in the county. The annual Roll Call is held in twenty-one localities in the county. Sixteen schools are enrolled in the Junior Red Cross, and classes in Home Hygiene and Care of the Sick are held each winter.

In 1927 lessons in First Aid and Life Saving were started in the county along the river front towns.

The headquarters of the Burlington County Chapter are in Burlington. The officers, in 1927, are, Chairman, Mrs. J. P. Macfarlane, Palmyra; First Vice Chairman, Mrs. J. F. Schuyler, Florence; Second Vice Chairman, Mrs. W. S. Gale, Mount Holly; Secretary and Treasurer, Miss Mary W. Samson, Burlington. Hon. Harold B. Wells is the County Roll Call Chairman.

CAPTAIN JAMES MACFARLAND POST, No. 79, AMERICAN LEGION, named for the Burlington surgeon who lost his life in France, was organized in Grand Army Hall, on Lawrence Street, on Friday, September 12, 1919. Ninety members were enrolled and these temporary officers were chosen: Commander, Colonel (then Major) Edward B. Stone; Vice Commander, Lieutenant William H. Absalom; Adjutant, Lieutenant Francis A. Morris; Financial Officer, S. Page Scholey.

A permanent organization was effected on the following Friday evening. The temporary officers were made permanent, and these were added: Historian, Peter Turnbull; Chaplain, J. Madison Whomsley; Insurance Officer, Philip T. Lyons, Jr.; Employment Officer, Harold V. Holmes. Soon after the Post was organized Burlington Lodge of Elks tendered the use of its lodge room for a meeting place. In 1921 the Post moved to Buck's Hall, 23 East Broad Street, where meetings were held until Memorial Hall was erected. Memorial Hall was dedicated on Armistice Day, 1923, with state officers and many other notables present.

MacFarland Post has shown steady increase in membership each year, and is considered one of the most active in this section of the state. The raising of funds for the bronze memorial statue in front of their Hall, and for the city ambulance, welfare work among veterans and depend-



ents, and the duty of decorating the graves of veterans on Memorial Day, are some of the outstanding activities of MacFarland Post.

The present officers are, Commander, R. Taylor McCormick; Senior Vice Commander, W. B. T. Colkitt; Junior Vice Commander, William S. Baker; Adjutant, Francis A. Morris; Finance Officer, S. Page Scholey; Assistant Finance Officer, Harry Brewer; Chaplain, Raymond E. Parker; Historian, J. Howard Pew. Besides Col. E. B. Stone and R. Taylor McCormick, other Commanders of the Post have been Peter Turnbull, S. Page Scholey, Raymond E. Parker, and Howard J. Miller.

THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, of Burlington, was organized on March 9, 1921, and under the presidency of Henry A. Brown entered upon a career of helpful coöperation with the municipal authorities and other civic bodies. Mr. Brown was succeeded as President by William B. Vandegrift, in 1922; by A. L. Severns, in 1924; and B. F. Haughton, who is President in 1927. The first Secretary was W. F. Baker. He has been followed by three successors in office, J. P. Perinchief, Carleton W. Tillinghast, and the present Secretary (in 1927) Noble Waggener.

The Chamber has made itself felt in many ways. Through its initiative and influence have come asphalt street surfacing, of High and Union Streets, some improvement of other streets, and concrete sidewalks in all parts of the city; "Cleaner City" campaigns have been held; a recreation field has been secured; a shade tree commission has been appointed; a farmers' market established; an up-to-date city directory has been published; historical information about Burlington has been distributed; forum meetings on timely subjects have been held; street signs and a revision of house numbering have been secured; aid has been given to movements for a deeper channel in the Delaware, a revised

building code and a zoning ordinance for Burlington, and furthering the New Jersey Ship Canal project.

To include even a brief history of the more than half a hundred organizations in Burlington would carry this chapter to lengths beyond the limit of this volume. The organizations, other than those already referred to are, Burlington Chapter No. 133, Order of Eastern Star; Hercules Lodge, No. 11, Independent Order of Mechanics; Burlington Chapter, Order of De Molay; Women's Christian Temperance Union; Young Women's Christian Association; Union Lodge, No. 2, A. F. & A. M.; Burlington Exempt Firemen's Association, the Ivy Club, Kiwanis Club, Burlington County Firemen's Association, the Council of the Federation of Churches, Burlington County Tuberculosis League, Women's Auxiliary of Burlington Fire Department, Burlington Senior Club of the Y. W. C. A., Burlington Grange No. 150, Patrons of Husbandry; Good Shepherd's Lodge, No. 8, Order of Shepherds of Bethlehem; Harmony Temple, No. 10, Ladies of the Golden Eagle; Burlington Council, No. 589, Knights of Columbus; Covenant Shrine, No. 13, White Shrine of Jerusalem; Charity Temple, No. 3, Pythian Sisters; St. Pauls Castle, No. 14, Knights of the Golden Eagle; Ladies' Aid Societies of the Churches, Employed Boys' Group of Young Men's Christian Association, the Brotherhoods of St. Marys, the Presbyterian, Methodist and Baptist Churches, and the Parent-Teacher Associations and Home and School Associations of Farnerville, Boudinot and Captain James Lawrence Schools; the Ladies' Auxiliary of Captain James MacFarland Post No. 79; Court Burlington, Independent Order Foresters; J. F. Clime Camp, Spanish War Veterans; Burlington Lodge No. 55, Ancient Order United Workmen; Carpenters Union; Iroquois Tent No. 14, Daughters of the Forest; Parker Grubb Camp No. 27, Sons of Veterans.

## Historic Places in Burlington, New Jersey

### Burlington College

River Bank, now the site of the Thomas Devlin Manufacturing Company.

### Barbarroux Wharf

River Bank at the foot of Talbot Street; shipyard 1698. The privateer *Marlborough* launched here 1744.

### Riverside

Residence of Bishop Doane—Founder of St. Marys Hall.

### St. Marys Hall

Protestant Episcopal Church School for girls established 1837.

### Shippen House

Delaware Avenue, West corner Talbot Street. May have been visited by Benedict Arnold.

### Residence of Courtlandt Van Rensselaer, first pastor of Presbyterian Church

Southeast corner of Delaware Avenue and Talbot Street.

### Site of the Residence of Governor William Franklin

Green Bank, home of famous Tory and Royalist. Also home of Mrs. Margaret Morris, who concealed Tory Rector, Jonathan Odell.

### Old Sycamore Tree

Green Bank. Tablet recently placed here to commemorate the settling of Burlington in 1677 and the mooring of the ship *Shield* to this tree in 1678.

### Stage Boat House

West Delaware Avenue. Passengers from Philadelphia via stage for New York entertained here.

### Town Wharf and Ferry Slip

Foot of High Street. The original owner of the ferry was Samuel Clift who in 1680 obtained a grant of 262 acres covering the present site of Bristol, Pennsylvania, and started a ferry to Burlington. Charles Snowden established a ferry in 1704. He allowed his franchise to elapse. In 1713 the Queen and Council granted another franchise but this ferry soon discontinued. Thomas Conlow obtained a franchise in 1721 and the ferry has been running ever since.

### Steamboat Hotel

High Street and Delaware Avenue. Built by Adam Sheppard in 1744. Called by his name until 1808 when steamboat travel was established. Stable and hotel fired upon from vessels of war during the Revolution.

### Residence of Samuel Jenings, Deputy Governor of the Province for Edward Byllinge

Southwest corner of High and Pearl Streets. Jening's country seat was Green Hill Farm on the Oxmead Road.

### Office of Thomas Revel, Registrar of West Jersey Proprietors

East Pearl Street. Tradition says: This is the house where Benjamin Franklin bought the gingerbread from a kindly old lady when as a boy he first passed through Burlington on his way to Philadelphia. Now occupied by the Annis Stockton Chapter D. A. R.

### Site of Samuel Jening's Office

206 High Street. Here Benjamin Franklin printed the first Colonial money in 1729. Isaac Collins printed Continental money in 1770. First *New Jersey Gazette* originally printed here, now *State Gazette*, Trenton, New Jersey. Smith's *History of New Jersey* was printed here in 1765. Press brought from Woodbridge; returned later.

### Thomas Gardner's House

228 High Street, Home of Land Commissioner who made settlements with the Indians. Built in 1680. First Annual Meeting of Friends occurred here in 1683.

### Site of Old Town Hall

Intersection of High and Union Streets, built 1794. Council chamber on second floor, prison in basement, whipping post in front.

### Drug Store

Corner of High and Union Streets, frequently visited by poet Whittier.

### Residence of Thomas Woolman

316-318 High Street, Proprietor, Member of Western Division of New Jersey.

### Home of Richard Smith, Jr.

320 High Street, built 1720. Later the residence of Nathaniel Coleman, the Quaker silversmith. The Friendly Institution organized here Christmas Eve 1796.

### Friends Meeting House

First meeting house built in 1683, hexagonal in shape. Present meeting house built in 1784.



### Site of Home of Daniel and Mary Smith

Northwest corner High and Broad Streets, built in 1703. At this corner the annual meeting of the Proprietors of West Jersey are held and have been held for over two hundred years.

### Site of Court House 1683

Center of High and Broad Streets; removed to Mount Holly, New Jersey in 1796.

### Blue Anchor Inn

Now Metropolitan Inn, built 1751. At one time meeting place of West Jersey Proprietors.

### Residence of Thomas Ollive

High Street, now Alcazar. Thomas Ollive arrived in 1677 on the ship *Kent*; was acting Governor of New Jersey during the absence of Governor Samuel Jennings.

### Site of Old Library

On Library Street. Ground donated by Governor Bloomfield.

### Residence of Governor Bloomfield

High and Library Streets. Soldier of the Revolutionary War, member of Congress, Registrar of the Court of Admiralty, Governor of New Jersey, Mayor of the City, Grand Master of Masons.

### Home of Stephen Grellet

437 South High Street. French nobleman, driven from France during the Revolution of 1793, became Missionary of the Society of Friends.

### Thomas Rodman House

446 South High Street, the first repository of the volumes composing the Burlington Library.

### Birthplace of James Fenimore Cooper, 1789

457 South High Street, now home of The Burlington County Historical Society.

### Home of Captain James Lawrence

459 South High Street. Captain Lawrence when mortally wounded in a terrific naval engagement called out with his dying breath: "Don't give up the ship." Hessian Commander dined here in 1776.

### Residence of Thomas Robb

Corner of High and Federal Streets, once the last residence out on South High Street.

### Meeting House

Hicksite branch of the Society of Friends, erected in 1845. Now All Saints Polish Church.

### Hessian Camp Grounds, 1776

South High Street.

### Hickory Grove

Salem Road or King's Highway. Dwelling of Samuel Smith, historian, and of Samuel J. Smith the poet.

### London Bridge

Washington Avenue, one of the dividing lines in the settlement of Burlington in 1677.

### Bradford House

135 West Broad Street. Home of Elias Boudinot, President of Continental Congress, 1782, Director of Mint, First President of American Bible Society. Daughter married Hon. William Bradford, attorney general under Washington.

### Kinsey House

Southeast corner Broad and Wood Streets, occupied by William Griffith, who operated woolen mill by power from Sylvan Lakes. House occupied by James Kinsey, delegate to Continental Congress.

### Academy

West Broad Street. Non-sectarian school built 1793. Now site of the new St. Mary's Episcopal Church.

### St. Marys Episcopal Church

Northwest corner Broad and Wood Streets. Founded in 1702, built 1703, second oldest Episcopal Church in New Jersey. Communion service presented by Queen Anne still in use.

### Residence of General Grant

309 Wood Street. Grant lived here at the time of Lincoln's assassination.

### Burlington Library

West Union Street, chartered by King George II, in 1757.

### Surveyor General's Office

West Broad Street, office of Proprietors of the Western Division of New Jersey. Repository for original deeds and records of title to land in West Jersey.

### Site of Old Jail

Now Broad Street M. E. Church.

### Residence of Isaac Collins, King's printer

Northeast corner York and Broad Streets. Printed Continental money in 1770.

### Old Brick School House

York and Penn Streets, now home of Civic League.

### Site of Arsenal

York Street opposite Jones Avenue. Repository for British Ordnance before Revolution. Recruiting station for soldiers of Mexican War.

### Site of First Public School House

Northeast corner of Broad and St. Mary Streets, now occupied by St. Barnabas Episcopal Church.

### Site of Old Barracks

East Broad Street, now St. Pauls old church edifice.

### Palace of Tatham

East Union Street and Assiscunk Creek, site now occupied by J. T. Severns' Sons & Co.

### Yorkshire Bridge

East Broad Street, over the Assiscunk Creek.

### Leasey Point

Southwest corner Pearl and Tatham Streets, site of Peter Jegou's log tavern, the first house of entertainment opened for the accommodation of travelers from New Amsterdam to lower provinces. George Fox stopped here on a religious tour in 1672.

### Matinick Island or Burlington Island

At one time dwelling place of Dutchmen who were murdered by Indians. The General Free Assembly by an act made provision for the revenue from the island to be devoted to maintaining the public schools of Burlington in 1682. The first foundation for a public school system in America.

### Site of First House Built in Limits of Burlington

Now farm of Henry Atkinson on River Road.

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## ERRATUM

The date "1726" in fifteenth line of page 49 should read "1729."





## APPENDIX

The heads of families that came in the ship *Kent* to Wickaco and arrived at and settled in the neighborhood of Burlington in October 1677 were:

Thomas Ollive	Morgan Drewett
Daniel Wills	William Penn
William Peachy	William Hibes
William Clayton	Samuel Lovett
John Crips	John Woolston
Thomas Eves	William Woodmancy
Thomas Harding	Chris Saunders
Thomas Nossiter	Robert Powell
Thomas Farnsworth	

Of the passengers who arrived in the *Willing Mind* there is no available record of those who settled near Burlington.

In November, 1677, the flie-boat *Martha's* passengers included these heads of families that settled here:

Thomas Wright	Marmaduke Horsman
Edward Sesson	William Goforth
George Miles	William Black
William Wood	John Lyman
Thomas Hooten	Richard Dingworth
William Oxley	Thomas Schooley
Richard Harrison	Samuel Taylor
Nathaniel Luke	William Ley

Also the families of Robert Stacy, Thomas Ellis, Samuel Odas, John Batts.

The *Shield*, from Hull, brought William Emley, wife, two children and servants; Mahlon Stacy, wife, children and servants; Thomas Lambert, wife, children and servants; John Lambert and servant; Thomas Revell, wife, children and servants; Godfrey Hancock, wife, children and servants;

Thomas Potts, wife and children; John Wood and four children; Thomas Wood, wife and children; Robert Murfin, wife and two children; James Pharo, wife and children; Robert Schooley, wife and children; Susannah Farnsworth, two children and servants; Richard Tattersall, wife and children;

Godfrey Newbold

George Parks

John Dewsbury

George Hill

Richard Green

Peter Fretwell

Thomas Barwick

John Heyres

John Newbold and one named Barnes, a merchant from Hull and several more.

In that same year, 1678, there arrived in a ship from London, William Hewlings, John Petty, Abram Hewlings, Thomas Keely, Jonathan Eldridge and several more.

About this time and within a few years afterward the following settlers arrived from England:

John Butcher

Seth Smith

William Brightwin

James Satterthwaite

John Borden

John Stacy

John Woolman

John Payne

Benj. Duffield

John Shinn

William Cooper

John Warrell

John Skein

Charles Read

Samuel Bunting

Chris Wetherill

Thomas Matthews

Richard Basnett

John Day

Samuel Furnace

William Biddle

Roger Huggins

Thomas Raper

William Biles

William Butcher

Anthony Morris

John Budd

Richard Arnold

William Pumphrey

Samuel Clift

Henry Grubb

Francis Collins

Thomas Gardiner

John Antrom

## MAYORS OF BURLINGTON

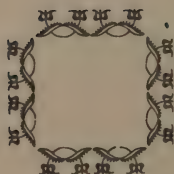
Since the Act of Incorporation of 1784.

Bowes Reed .....	1785-1794
Joseph Bloomfield .....	1795-1800
James Sterling .....	1801-1806
William Coxe .....	1807-1815
Joseph McIlvaine .....	1816-1823
William Griffith .....	1824-1826
John L. Harris .....	1827-1833
John Larzalere .....	1834-1836
Samuel W. Earl .....	1837-1841
William R. Allen .....	1842-1850
James W. Wall .....	1851-1854
Archibald W. Burns .....	1855-1857
William R. Allen .....	1858-1862
Henry Hollembaek .....	1863-1866
Joseph L. Powell .....	1867-1869
Henry Moffett .....	1870-1872
Joseph L. Powell .....	1873-1875
Hamilton McDowell .....	1876-1878
George Rigg .....	1879-1882
Albert H. Silpath .....	1883-1891
Joseph P. Woolman .....	1892-1894
William E. McNeal .....	1895-1898
Charles Y. Flanders .....	1899-1903
George A. Allinson .....	1904-1907
C. Taylor Rue .....	1908-1909
Charles P. Farner .....	1910-1912
Ellsworth E. Mount .....	1913-1921
Thomas S. Mooney .....	1922-1927

POSTMASTERS AT BURLINGTON, BURLINGTON  
COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

<i>Postmaster</i>	<i>Appointed</i>
Thomas Douglas .....	April 1, 1798
Thompson Neale .....	July 1, 1798
Stephen Ustech .....	July 1, 1805
George Allen .....	April 1, 1818
James H. Sterling .....	May 18, 1829
John Quicksall .....	Mar. 21, 1837

Budd Sterling .....	Dec. 30, 1840
Joseph L. Wright .....	June 28, 1845
James Watts .....	April 11, 1849
Henry Hollembaek .....	April 9, 1853
Jacob Laumaster .....	July 16, 1861
Mary J. Martin .....	July 23, 1868
Samuel E. Lippincott.....	Mar. 1, 1886
Samuel Phillips .....	April 12, 1890
George D. Wetherill .....	May 3, 1894
Nathan W. C. Hays.....	Sept. 17, 1898
John W. Davis .....	Dec. 17, 1906
Joseph L. Hammell .....	Mar. 3, 1915
William R. Conard .....	Dec. 19, 1923





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